

# PARANORMAL UNDERGROUND®

Volume 17, Issue 11

November 2024

## Durinda Stewart

Psychic Medium & Healer

## Island of the Dolls

Mexico's Most Chilling Haunt

## Legend of the Ozark Howler

## Ghosts of the Battle of Harpers Ferry

## Are Aliens Us?

Time Travel & Human Evolution

## A Ghostly Thanksgiving Feast

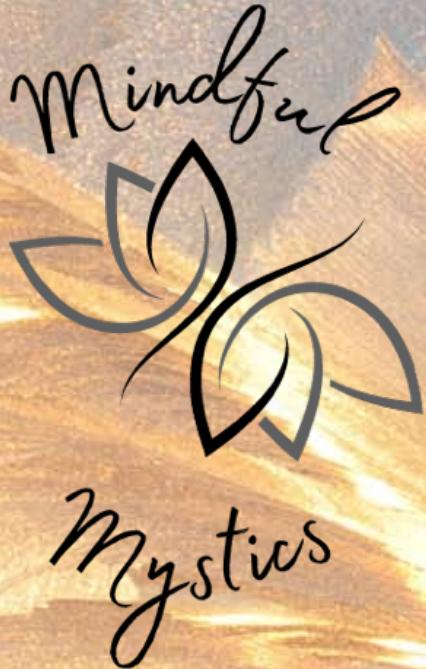
### ALSO INSIDE:

**CASE FILES: STUFFED TOY DOG BECOMES A PORTAL FOR DARKNESS**

**THE LLANILAR INCIDENT: WALES' MYSTERIOUS UFO CRASH**

**CHASING IMMORTALITY: LONGEVITY ESCAPE VELOCITY**

**HOW TO CLEAR YOUR SPACE WITH SACRED HERBS & RESINS**



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Underground*



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*Psychic Intuitive  
& Paranormal  
Researcher*



**Karen Frazier**

*Author & Energy  
Healer*

**TUNE IN TODAY ON ITUNES, SPOTIFY & MORE!**

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### CHERYL LYNN CARTER

**C**heryl is a psychic medium, remote viewer, explorer, and researcher. Having her first paranormal experience at a young age made her realize she had a unique Sixth Sense and was able to communicate with those on the other side.

Cheryl's passion for one haunted location afforded her the opportunity to appear and consult in Chris Halton's documentary *A Haunting at Bachelors Grove*, one of the most haunted cemeteries in the Midwest.

She is an experiencer and a member of MUFON and CE-5. She served as a consultant for Thomas Conwell's books *They Are Here: Central U.S. UFOs and Earthquakes and UFOs*. Cheryl is an international author of eight books, including *Edge of Darkness*, *Chosen*, and *Dimensions: Mysterious Triangles of the U.S.*, and she is the co-author of *Digging Into Skinwalker Ranch* and *The Basin Files: Skinwalker Ranch*.

[cherylynnncarter.com](http://cherylynnncarter.com)



### SEAN CASTEEL

**S**ean is a freelance journalist who has been writing about UFOs, alien abduction, and many other paranormal subjects since 1989. His writing has appeared in *UFO Magazine*, the late Tim Beckley's *UFO Universe*, *FATE Magazine*, *Mysteries Magazine*, and *Open Minds Magazine*, among others.

Sean has written or contributed to more than 30 books for Global Communications and Inner Light Publications. His books include *The Heretic's UFO Guidebook*, which analyzes a selection of Gnostic Christian writings and their relationship to the UFO phenomenon, and *Signs and Symbols of the Second Coming*, in which he interviews several religious and paranormal experts about how prophecies of the Second Coming of Christ may be fulfilled.

[www.amazon.com/author/seancasteel](http://www.amazon.com/author/seancasteel)



### MAXIM W. FUREK

**M**axim's rich background includes aspects of psychology, addictions, music journalism, and the paranormal. He has a master's degree in communications from Bloomsburg University and a bachelor's degree in psychology from Aquinas College.

He interviewed celebrity demonologists Ed and Lorraine Warren and was featured on *Exploring the Bizarre*, with the late Timothy Green Beckley (Mr. UFO) and Tim



R. Swartz (Commander X). His book titles include *The Lost Tribes of Bigfoot*, *Coal Region HooDoo: Paranormal Tales From Inside the Pit*, and *Flying Saucer Esoteric: The Altered States of Ufology*. Maxim has been interviewed on paranormal programs *Coast to Coast AM*, *Midnight in the Desert* with Heather Wade, and *The Paranormal 60* with Dave Schrader.

[maximfurek.com](http://maximfurek.com)

### WILLIE WINDWALKER GIBSON

**W**illie is a shaman and supernatural consultant. He works by himself, as well as with his wife, Schmon. He belongs to the Paranormal Clergy and Dominion Ministries.

Willie is the author of two books detailing his 50-year journey in the paranormal, *The Shaman Windwalker* and *Soul Warriors*.

Willie has appeared on A&E's *Cursed: The Bell Witch* and CMT's *Most Shocking Ghosts*. He also hosted a public access show in Louisville, Kentucky, for 12 years, called *Spiritual Gifts and Wonders*. In addition, he created a group of sensitives, called Soul Warriors, who are based across the U.S.



### WARREN GRAY

**W**arren is a retired, U.S. Air Force intelligence officer with experience in joint special operations and counterterrorism. He served in Europe (traveled to Ireland twice) and the Middle East and earned Air Force and Navy parachutist wings.

He earned four college degrees and was a distinguished graduate of the Air Force Intelligence Operations Specialist Course and the USAF Combat Targeting School. He is currently a published author and historian.



### CHERYL KNIGHT-WILSON

**C**heryl is co-creator and editor-in-chief of *Paranormal Underground* magazine and cohost of the podcasts *Mindful Mystics* and *Paranormal Underground Radio*. She has written articles on topics ranging from advanced technology and enterprise computing to travel guides and paranormal phenomena.



Her magazine experience includes roles as senior and managing editor for several niche publications and online media. Cheryl has experienced all types of paranormal phenomena, from ghostly activity to psychic events.

[paranormalunderground.net](http://paranormalunderground.net)

## LISA LAMONICA

Lisa is an author and illustrator. She is the author of *Haunted Catskills and Witches and Warlocks of New York*. She has also written for *Chronogram Magazine*, *Haunted History Trail of New York*, *Hudson Art & History Magazine*, *Hudson Valley Parent Magazine*, and PBS/WMHT.

Lisa has received awards for her artwork. She was nominated for Artist of the Year in 2002 by the Columbia County Council on the Arts, and featured twice on WMHT's A House for the Arts. She lives in upstate New York.

[lisalamonica.com](http://lisalamonica.com)



## ATHENA PERRAKIS, PH.D.

Athena is the founder and CEO of SageGoddess.com, a source of sacred tools and metaphysical education. She earned a doctorate from the University of Southern California in educational leadership and has 15 years of experience as a professor, corporate trainer and consultant, and educator.

Athena's metaphysical experience includes expertise in gemology, astrology, tarot, aromatherapy, Reiki, and herbal medicine. Through her writing, online courses, and material offerings, Athena helps others cultivate and maintain sacred space in their lives for peace, healing, and abundance.

[sagegoddess.com](http://sagegoddess.com)



## RAINBOW RADAELLI

Rainbow is a paranormal, abductee, and cryptid researcher along with her husband, Michael. She is an experiencer herself, dealing with paranormal phenomena since childhood.

The silk road of life has led Rainbow in many directions: cowgirl, medicine woman, gypsy, belly dancer, and truth seeker. All directions have paralleled each other, finally coming together in Rainbow's articles, research, and blogs.

[dimensionalwalking@gmail.com](mailto:dimensionalwalking@gmail.com)



## PAUL DALE ROBERTS

Known as an esoteric detective, Paul has been reading and studying the unknown since he was a young boy. He has been to over 59 countries to document the paranormal.

Paul worked for military intelligence from 1979 to 1986 and saw several top-secret UFO



photographs, making him very interested in extraterrestrials. He is a journalist for the *Costa Rican Times*, and his articles cover metaphysical topics and paranormal investigative stories. He is also co-owner of Halo Paranormal Investigations.

[jazmaonline.boards.net](http://jazmaonline.boards.net)

## COREY SHARER

Corey is a paranormal enthusiast who has investigated at The Queen Mary, The Queen Anne Hotel, Hotel Alex Johnson, and The Whaley House.



He has personally encountered paranormal phenomena, including seeing ghostly apparitions and UFOs, and is most interested in trying to solve the mysteries of the paranormal.

## CHAD WILSON

A freelance writer, Chad is co-creator and publisher of *Paranormal Underground* magazine and co-producer of *Paranormal Underground Radio*. His interest in the paranormal led to the creation of *ParanormalUnderground.net*.



Chad has investigated with East Tennessee Paranormal Research Society and counts Waverly Hills Sanatorium, the Villisca Axe Murder House, Bobby Mackey's Music World, the Queen Mary, Queen Anne Hotel, Hotel Alex Johnson, Brushy Mountain State Penitentiary, and private residences among his investigations.

[paranormalunderground.net](http://paranormalunderground.net) ♦

## Have You Had a Paranormal Encounter You'd Like to Share?

If you've had a paranormal encounter and would like to share it with our readers, email us at [paranormalunderground@live.com](mailto:paranormalunderground@live.com). Tell us about your experience, and we may publish it in a future issue.



We are looking for encounters with all types of paranormal phenomena, including experiences with ghosts, cryptids, UFOs/ETs, the spirit realm, psychic phenomena, etc.

And don't worry ... your submission can be anonymous!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

# PARANORMAL UNDERGROUND®

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[www.ParanormalUnderground.net](http://www.ParanormalUnderground.net)

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## 2024:

### December 6-7

Poasttown Elementary School  
Holiday Public Investigation  
Middletown, OH  
[eerieexcursions.com](http://eerieexcursions.com)

### December 6-8

GalaxyCon Columbus  
Columbus, OH  
[galaxycon.com/pages/galaxycon-columbus](http://galaxycon.com/pages/galaxycon-columbus)

### December 7

Olde Park Hotel Ghosts of  
Christmas Past II  
Ballinger, TX  
[freshtix.com/events/olde-park-hotel-ghosts-of-christmas-past-2](http://freshtix.com/events/olde-park-hotel-ghosts-of-christmas-past-2)

### December 7

Dark Christmas & Krampus-naught Faire  
Manchester, TN  
[ladyfrightsemporium.com/events.html](http://ladyfrightsemporium.com/events.html)

### December 7-8

Horror for the Holidays  
Austin, TX  
[bloodovertexas.com/hfth-2023](http://bloodovertexas.com/hfth-2023)

### December 13-14

Tulsa Horror Con  
Tulsa, OK  
[horrorconokc.com](http://horrorconokc.com)

## December 14

Christmas Cheer at McInteer! A  
haunted holiday celebration &  
investigation  
Atchison, KS  
[eventbrite.com/e/christmas-cheer-at-mcinteer-a-haunted-holiday-celebration-investigation-tickets-818859309237](https://eventbrite.com/e/christmas-cheer-at-mcinteer-a-haunted-holiday-celebration-investigation-tickets-818859309237)

## 2025:

### January 17-19

Days of the Dead Las Vegas  
Las Vegas, NV  
[daysofthedead.com](http://daysofthedead.com)

### January 31-February 2

Eureka Springs Paranormal  
Weekend  
Eureka Springs, AR  
[reserveeureka.com/attractions/esp](http://reserveeureka.com/attractions/esp)

### January 31-February 2

Creep I.E. Con  
Ontario, CA  
[creepiecon.com](http://creepiecon.com)

### February 14-16

Pensacon 2025  
Pensacola, FL  
[pensacon.com/](http://pensacon.com/)

### February 28-March 1

Missouri Paracon  
Kansas City, Missouri  
[missouriparacon.com](http://missouriparacon.com)

### March 21-23

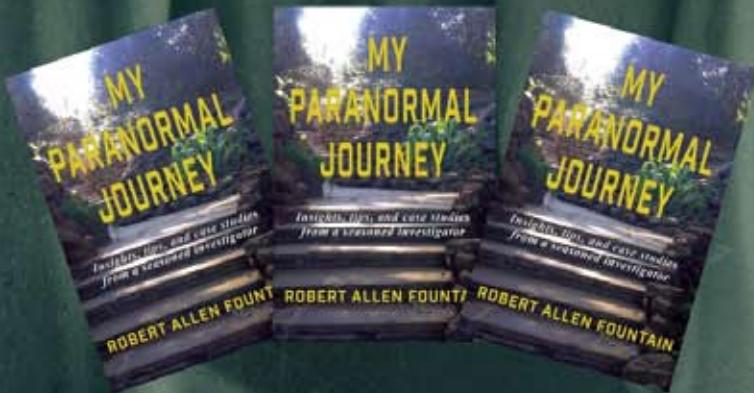
Oregon Ghost Conference  
Seaside, Oregon  
[oregonghostconference.com](http://oregonghostconference.com)

*E-mail your paranormal event to  
[paranormalunderground@live.com](mailto:paranormalunderground@live.com).*

# MY PARANORMAL JOURNEY

BY ROBERT ALLEN FOUNTAIN

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DESIGN AND LAYOUT

Cheryl Knight-Wilson

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Durinda Stewart  
(Photo by Leta O'Connor  
Photography)

## SOCIAL MEDIA

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Bluesky

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# WINGED CREATURE, NEW UFO REPORTS & A BLACK-EYED KID ENCOUNTER

## AMITYVILLE HORROR HOUSE: A HAUNTING LEGACY 50 YEARS LATER

The infamous “Amityville Horror” house on Long Island may still harbor “dormant” paranormal entities 50 years after the 1974 murders that inspired books and movies, according to the *New York Post*. Neighbors and paranormal experts remain divided on whether the property’s dark past continues to cast a shadow.

Fran Walters, who has lived next door for nearly three decades, recalls her unease. “Absolutely. I believe there are more things in this world that we don’t understand, and I don’t discount the possibility at all,” she said. She once entered the house during an estate sale but would never consider living there. “The Amityville Horror would always be there. You’d hear a little creak in the night and it might set you off,” she added.

On November 13, 1974, Ronald “Butch” DeFeo, 23, fatally shot his parents and four siblings as they slept. DeFeo, who claimed he heard “voices” urging him to commit the crime, was later linked to satanic rituals by famed paranormal investigators Ed and Lorraine Warren. Tony Spera, the Warrens’ son-in-law, believes the house’s past may still linger. “There could possibly — and I’m emphasizing the word possibly — still be something dormant in that structure that could reignite,” he said.

Although subsequent owners have reported no hauntings, curiosity seekers continue to be drawn to the home. For Walters, its reputation as a site of tragedy and fear remains impossible to ignore.

## CHICAGO RESIDENT REPORTS WINGED HUMANOID ON CONDO ROOFTOP

A Chicago man, identified as Ryan, reported a sighting of a “Mothman”-like creature on the rooftop of a condominium near Lake Michigan, accord-



ing to a report by *The Singular Fortean Society*. The sighting was originally submitted to *Unsolved Mysteries* following their episode on the famed cryptid.

Ryan described seeing a tall, winged humanoid with glowing red eyes from his fourth-floor apartment window during a quiet evening in early July. “I just thought it was a man, like with weird eyes or something. And then the minute I saw his wings come out from behind him, I was like, ‘Oh my God,’” he told Tobias Wayland, a cryptid investigator.

Ryan recounted how he noticed two bright red lights on the Park Tower rooftop, which he later realized were the creature’s eyes. The figure unfurled its wings and flew toward Lake Michigan. Ryan initially questioned his own sanity. “I mean, honestly, I thought I was losing my mind,” he said. However, watching *Unsolved Mysteries* helped validate his experience.

This sighting adds to the growing number of reports surrounding the Lake Michigan Mothman phenomenon. Witnesses frequently describe a winged humanoid with glowing eyes, often seen near water or natural areas. While some dismiss the sightings as misidentified large birds, others connect the cryptid to broader paranormal phenomena, including UFOs and mysterious humanoids.

## PENTAGON LOGS HUNDREDS OF NEW UFO REPORTS

The Pentagon has received hundreds of new UFO reports, but there is still no evidence of extraterrestrial activity, according to a story by *CNN*. The recently released annual report from the Pentagon, in collaboration with the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, highlights 757 new sightings between May 2023 and June 2024. These additions bring the total number of unidentified anomalous phenomena (UAP) reports to 1,652.

“Reports of unidentified anomalous phenomenon,





particularly near national security sites, must be treated seriously and investigated with scientific rigor by the U.S. government,” said Jon Kosloski, director of the All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office.

The surge in reports reflects the government’s increasing efforts to document, track, and study UAPs, especially those spotted near sensitive locations, such as military bases and national security facilities. These investigations are aimed at determining the nature of these phenomena while ensuring national security remains uncompromised, according to the CNN report.

The report notes “several particularly interesting cases,” but maintains the stance that no evidence links the sightings to alien activity. This statement aligns with the U.S. government’s broader approach to UAPs, treating them as potential threats or intelligence concerns rather than confirming any extraterrestrial origin.

This development emphasizes the government’s acknowledgment of the significance of UAPs and its resolve to investigate them thoroughly. However, the absence of evidence for alien life leaves many questions unanswered. For now, the focus remains on cataloging and understanding these mysterious occurrences, the article concluded.

## INVESTIGATOR RECOUNTS SEEING A BLACK-EYED KID

Paranormal investigator Lee Brickley, known for his research on Cannock Chase’s supernatural lore, vividly recalls his own chilling encounter with the infamous Black-Eyed Children. Speaking to the *Mirror*, Brickley described the eerie 2018 sighting, saying, the kid “appeared about a hundred meters in front of me, stared right at me for about 30 seconds, then vanished without a trace.”

Brickley, an author on ghosts and cryptids, has been fascinated by the paranormal since childhood. He recounted early experiences of seeing shadows in his home and unexplained phenomena, such as a cup violently swinging under a cupboard. “Years later I learned that my great uncle died in that house,” he shared, believing the hauntings to be connected.

Cannock Chase, a sprawling forest in Staffordshire, U.K., has a reputation for eerie activity. Brickley called it a “paranormal portal,” explaining, “I believe the woods are haunted with many spirits of the dead, but there are also lots of monster sightings ... I think those creatures come from another, much darker place.”

His research includes interviews with locals and witnesses, such as teens Kylie and Ben, who encountered the Black-Eyed Child during a 2021 camping trip. “I’d read the stories ... but it wasn’t until the thing stood right in front of me that I could quite believe them,” Kylie recalled.

The forest continues to draw investigators and thrill-seekers alike, captivated by its otherworldly mysteries and Brickley’s firsthand accounts of the unexplained. ♦



### WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT UFOS?

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# EXPLORING MAGIC AND MYTH

## THREE UNIQUE BOOKS TO ENCHANT YOUR READING LIST

By Lisa LaMonica

**S**tep into the enchanting world of magic, myth, and folklore with three captivating books that explore the mystical and the mysterious. From the practical spellcraft of working with dirt to the thrilling tales of monsters and fairies, each title invites readers to embrace their curiosity and delve into ancient traditions and modern interpretations of the supernatural.

Whether you're a seasoned practitioner, a folklore enthusiast, or a casual reader intrigued by the mystical, these books promise to inspire and inform.

### 'Divine Dirt: The Art of Using Dirt in Magic, Ritual & Spellcraft' by Charity L. Bedell

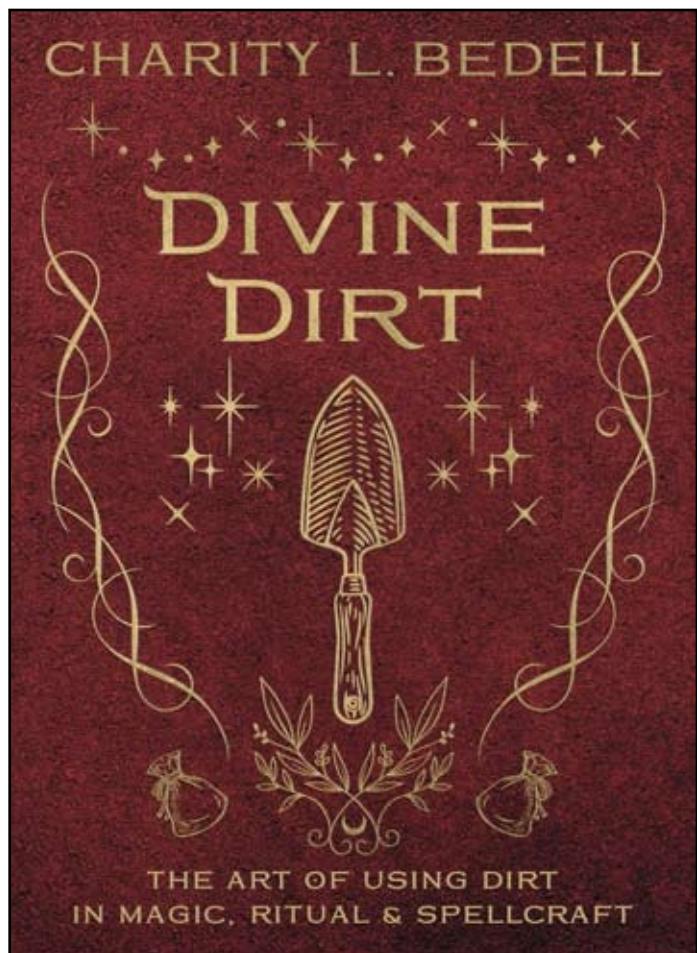
From gardens to graveyards, there are magical places where new books chronicle how to work with environmental energies. In addition to nature, not to be forgotten are businesses, transportation centers, and public service places where dirt can be harvested and used. The main themes in this book include connecting with nature, honoring the earth, and the author's practice of witchcraft, conjure, and folk magic.

In *Divine Dirt*, even the dirt from flowers, herbs, and vegetables harvested can have important uses and correspondences. And dirt from specific locations can be used in specific spellwork. Specific spells and materials are for protection, money, return to sender, health and good fortune, employment, relationship, business and opportunities, and your personal home.

Where dirt is removed from is important also; public or private, permission needed or granted affect outcomes. Not common in books on this subject, a section is devoted to ethics and questions to ask before practicing any type of spellwork.

Location, animal and flower correspondences, symbols, and sigils are also discussed. The author delves into myths and misconceptions.

Perfect-sized book to travel with you in the garden and on field trips.



### 'Monsters You Should Know' by Emma SanCartier

This book showcases beasts that are beautifully illustrated and tales told from folklore and legends around the world. It is for middle readers, but adults who are fascinated by such things, would enjoy it as well. It may be a bit too scary for the little ones.

Monsters are portrayed in vibrant art, encouraging the reader to make their own interpretations and drawings or paintings. This book should be a perennial favorite, especially during the spooky season, with readings of it

around the campfire. Funny, freaky, frightening folktales and artwork make this book unique and easy to read.

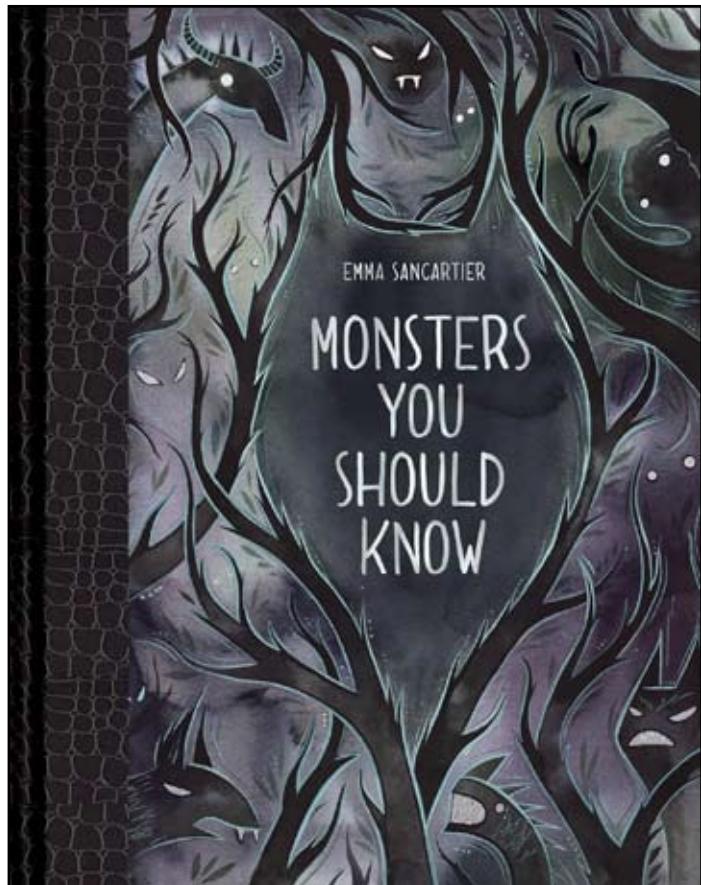
**'Fairies, Pookas and Changelings: A Complete Guide to the Wild and Wicked Enchanted Realm' by Varla Ventura**

This book takes the reader back to a different era, when the *Kingdom of the Fairy* was thought about frequently and sometimes with fright. Irish, English, Welsh, Dutch, German, Greek, Spanish, Japanese, Finnish, and Italian folklore and terms are integrated here.

Fairies could help or harm, and their domain was to be respected and properly navigated around. There were ways to appease them that were common practices in those days, and for some cultures even now.

Multiple charming spot illustrations accompany additional folklore, poetry, and stories, with flower and tree folklore acquired by the author. Christmas elves, Cinderella, Tinker Bell and Peter Pan, and Halloween folklore are examined here in detail as well, from America and many other countries. Included is the strange tale of the green-skinned children found by farmers in England.

A comprehensive study on the subject, the book demonstrates where many superstitions came from also. Pocket-sized book easily transports to wherever you need to take it. ♦



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**Featuring**



Paranormal author and rock journalist Maxim Furek has arrived as the 21st-century incarnation of John Keel. In *The Lost Tribes of Bigfoot*, Furek explores the unchartered waters surrounding the cryptid's forbidden realm in a rousing and controversial exposé.

Doug Hajicek,  
Monster Quest



"If it's not flesh and blood then what is it?"

**Maxim W. Furek**

# DURINDA STEWART:

## EXPLORING THE REALMS OF ENERGY, SPIRIT & THE PARANORMAL

By Cheryl Knight-Wilson

**D**urinda Stewart, a gifted psychic medium, Reiki Master, and author, has devoted her life to understanding the unseen, offering healing to those in need, and uncovering the mysteries of the supernatural.

With her unique blend of Native American heritage, spiritual wisdom, and paranormal expertise, Durinda's journey has been shaped by profound experiences — from struggling with her abilities in childhood to becoming a respected demonologist and investigator.

In this exclusive Q&A, Durinda shares the personal and professional moments that defined her path, discusses her work as a healer and demon hunter, and offers insights into the interconnectedness of energy, spirit, and the human experience. She also provides insights included in *her book, Native Spiritual Realms: A Guide to Native American Paranormal*, which bridges ancient traditions with modern supernatural encounters and weaves stories of healing, Bigfoot sightings, and the spirit realm.

Join us for a deep dive into the extraordinary world Durinda inhabits, where ancient wisdom meets contemporary practice and healing and the paranormal intersect.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Q: What initially drew you to pursue a path as a psychic medium and Reiki Master? Was there a specific moment or experience that inspired you?**

**Durinda:** At first, I struggled with my gifts. I didn't want to be different from everyone else. My friends didn't see ghost-like people in their bedrooms. I felt like I didn't belong in the world I was in. I am afraid of the dark. I don't like scary movies, so why me?

Now and again, I would run into people who would say you have a gift you are not using. I chose to ignore what they were saying. Then, one day, in my late 20s or early 30s, a friend asked me to go to a psychic class with her. *OK, this is my way to prove once and for all I'm not psychic*, I thought at the time.



**Durinda Stewart connects with the spirit realm during investigations, using her intuitive abilities to uncover hidden truths. (Photo by Leta O'Connor Photography)**

After the first class, the instructor pulled me aside and said, "It's time to embrace what you have." I decided that if I was going to do this, I needed to help people heal. So, Reiki was the next thing I pursued, which helped me discover that we are all of mind, body, and spirit.

Messages from the other side can help heal a broken heart or foot. We are all made of energy. Reiki helped me with the demon work I was about to pursue.

**Q: What is it like to live and work as a psychic medium? How does this gift shape your daily life?**



**Durinda and her husband, Joe, combine their unique talents as a psychic medium and demon hunter to tackle the mysteries of the supernatural. Together, they work to uncover truths, protect those in need, and shed light on the darker realms of the paranormal.**

**Durinda:** Sometimes, I must turn my psychic abilities down to be less sensitive or shut myself off. I get bombarded with noise from other minds if I'm in a crowded room with people and maybe a few of their dead relatives want to get a message to them.

In a constantly evolving universe, predicting everything happening with everyone is impossible. I choose my abilities as a healing tool to help identify areas of imbalance. I'm not here to cause more anxiety. My purpose is to give what you need to hear, not what you want to hear. I even take the time to rest my mind, body, and spirit. It's essential to live in balance to serve my clients better.

**Q: We interviewed your husband, Joe, in our October 2023 issue. How has his work as a demon hunter influenced your own spiritual journey and perspective on the supernatural?**

**Durinda:** Working with demons has improved my psychic abilities and increased my skills in hearing and seeing both ghosts and demons. I have learned to move ghosts on, ending a haunting.

I also have developed the ability to identify demons by name, allowing our group to bind the demons and ending a possession. In addition, it has exposed me to new entities, such as the Tulpas.

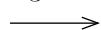
It taught me how important it is for a psychic to protect themselves and not to be too open to the unknown.

**Q: In your own work as a demon hunter, what has been the best case that you've investigated that you think proves that demons are real?**

**Durinda:** The Ohio Dark Man was an entity that was about 6 ½ feet tall and thin, with a black duster, wide-brim fedora, and blazing red eyes.

During the investigation, I was lifted off my feet and thrown to the floor. A mounted deer head turned and looked at us, then turned back to its original position. I was trying to go to the basement to assist my husband downstairs, when two hands came up through the floor and grabbed my ankles, holding me where I couldn't move.

When my husband completed the demon binding,





**Drawing on her Native American heritage, Durinda channels the energy of the medicine wheel for spiritual guidance. Her approach combines ancient traditions with modern healing practices to restore balance and clarity.**

everything stopped. The following day, the client reported that she slept all night for the first time in years. I knew then demons were real.

**Q: As a Reiki Master, how do you integrate energy healing into your work as a medium? Are there unique ways the two practices complement each other?**

**Durinda:** Energy work will give you messages about your body and mind. Spirit guides will provide me with messages about what is going on with a client's body.

By placing my hands on someone to heal, it sometimes reveals an injury that might have happened in child-

hood, even at birth. Physically and mentally, I think most Reiki practitioners have the intuition to do this work. It goes hand in hand.

**Q: You practice psychometry to gain insight by touching objects. Could you describe a memorable experience using this technique that left a lasting impact on you?**

**Durinda:** Being Native American, you learn at an early age that everything has an energy. I once had an experience in an antique store. I found a wooden chest there and just happened to put my hands on it.

The emotion from that chest was like a movie of this young girl's life — going to a new country (the United States). I never had such an experience before with just a touch. It was so surreal.

**Q: Many readers are fascinated by the ideas of seeing or sensing spirits. How do you experience these communications and what do you believe are the main messages these spirits want to convey?**

**Durinda:** I can hear them talk, and sometimes I can see them. It depends on the situation. I see flashes of images through my mind's eye, not unlike a slide show.

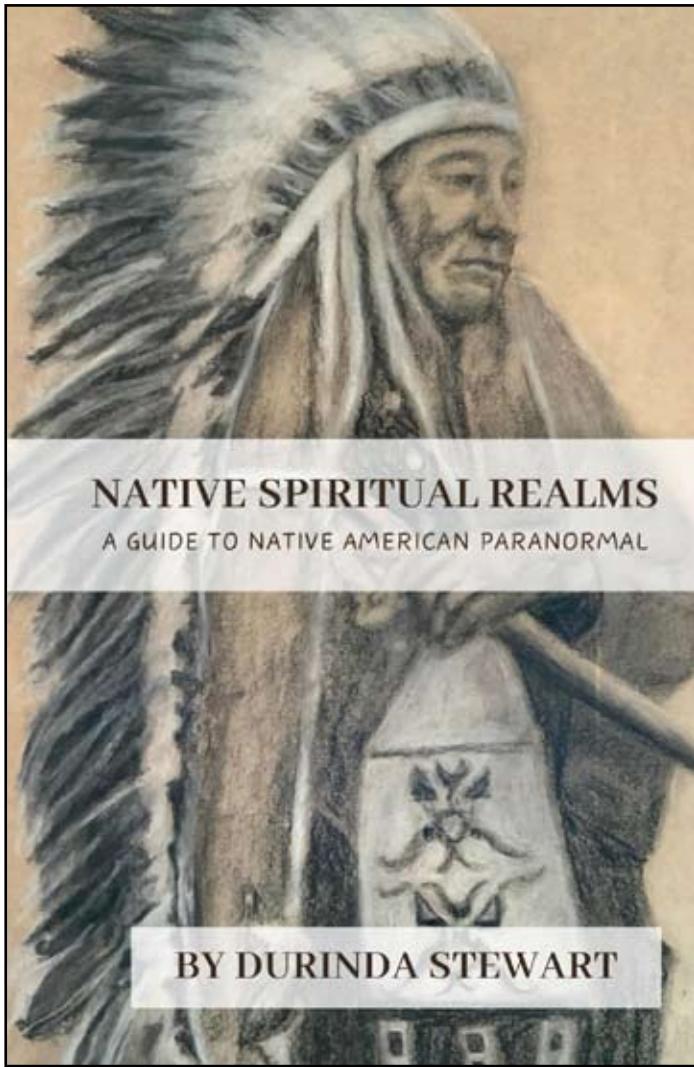
When someone dies and becomes a ghost, there are so many emotions: guilt, sadness, and regrets, to name a few. Messages to their loved ones are usually a message of love. Sometimes, they want to tell you their story and concerns, especially if they are a roaming ghost.

In general, ghosts are stuck; they tether themselves to an object by obsession, such as a house, a bed, or a musical instrument (piano), which are the most common objects of attachment. Since they still are human in mind, they go through the stages of their acceptance of death, which are denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance.

We find a lot of ghosts don't know they are dead due to being in the denial stage. Some will get to the anger stage once they admit to themselves they are dead. Their obsessions make them earthbound, whether roaming the land or haunting a house.

**Q: Your book, *Native Spiritual Realms: A Guide to Native American Paranormal*, touches on the intersection of ancient wisdom and supernatural encounters. What inspired you to explore this topic in depth?**

**Durinda:** I always loved sitting with an elder listening to the beautiful creation stories, sky people, and ancestors



Durinda's book, "Native Spiritual Realms: A Guide to Native American Paranormal," delves into the fascinating intersection of ancient wisdom and supernatural encounters. It offers readers a glimpse into her spiritual journey and the timeless stories of her people.

that bring messages from the ghost realm. Also, stories of the hairy men of the woods (Bigfoot). It's all about the stories.

I wanted to share these stories of my people's encounters and experiences. The book is my way to pass on the stories that were told to me, as well as my experiences.

**Q: Can you share a story or insight from your book that you feel encapsulates the heart of Native American paranormal traditions?**

**Durinda:** The medicine wheel is a circular representation of the interconnectedness of all things in the Universe. It is a powerful symbol that reflects the cyclical nature of life and offers insight into the spiritual paths we embark upon. Each direction on the wheel holds its

unique energy and significance, providing a roadmap for personal transformation.

As I continue exploring the paranormal and delve deeper into the mysteries surrounding us, the medicine wheel remains my steadfast companion — a source of spiritual guidance that transcends time and space.

**Q: Talk about common misconceptions about the paranormal field that you've encountered.**

**Durinda:** Some common misconceptions include:

- Demons must be called in. This is not true. They are predators looking for what they perceive as prey.
- All spirits are good and well-intentioned. Not everything in Spirit world is automatically good, so beware.
- Demonic possession is permanent. Possession is only temporary. It is a tool of the demon for control of the individual.
- Hauntings last forever. This is not true. The energy plays out; it could take days to centuries.

**Q: In your work, do you feel a responsibility to guide or protect those who seek your help, especially regarding their own experiences with the paranormal?**

**Durinda:** When someone invites me into their home, I am responsible for respecting the space and protecting them, myself, and my team.

I want to teach them and answer their questions to calm their fears. I want to empower them to take back their spaces and know the difference between good and not-so-good spirits. I also advise them not to confront, but to respect the energy.

I let them know they are not alone and that others have similar experiences.

**Q: What advice would you offer to those who may feel they have a connection to spirit world but are unsure how to nurture or understand it.**

**Durinda:** Take it slow; feel the feelings. If it doesn't feel right, it probably isn't. Seek other like-minded people to share your experiences with. Find books or articles on the subjects. Or, contact us! We are here if you need us.

\* \* \* \* \*

Learn more about Durinda Stewart and her work at [durindajstewart.com](http://durindajstewart.com) and [societyofdemonologists.org](http://societyofdemonologists.org). You can also find her online on [Instagram](#), [Durinda's Facebook](#), and [SDM's Facebook](#). And make sure to check out her podcast, "Wife of a Demon Hunter: Extraordinary Tales of All Things Paranormal." ♦

# UNMASKING PILTDOWN MAN

## THE MISSING LINK THAT NEVER WAS

BY MAXIM W. FUREK

Over a century ago, the Piltdown Man gained infamy as a bold and sophisticated hoax intended to deceive the scientific community.

Charles Dawson was a lawyer and amateur fossil collector driven by burning curiosity and the need for recognition. In 1912, Dawson claimed to have discovered the “missing link” between ape and man after finding fossil fragments of a human-like skull in Pleistocene gravel beds near Piltdown village in Sussex, England. After spending years sifting through the dig and his sensational discovery, area tabloids dubbed him “The Wizard of Sussex.”

Dawson contacted paleontologist Arthur Smith Woodward, curator of geology at the Natural History Museum, for his help. Months later, the team successfully unearthed more evidence — a set of teeth, a partial jawbone, more skull fragments, and primitive tools, which they suggested exhibited characteristics of both apes and humans and was, therefore, the missing link.

### The Missing Link

There is no Missing Link. The Missing Link theory, popular in the 19th century, purported that fossil evidence existed linking apes to humans. Although it continues to be incorrectly used in popular science and in the media, there is no Missing Link. That disproven concept has been relegated to an earlier time of untested scientific theory, draped in racist ideology.

The Missing Link theory came into vogue after the 1859 publication of Charles Darwin’s *On the Origin of Species*. Darwin’s theory of evolution by natural selection proposed that fossil evidence connecting apes to modern humans existed. That wished-for fossil evidence became known as the so-called Missing Link.

There were obvious problems within the scientific community, especially a lack of valid evidence. For decades, the archaeological community agonized over



An AI image generator depiction of the Piltdown Man.

the incompleteness of the fossil record, the scarcity of transitional fossils, and gaps in the fossil record. It was difficult to reach scientific conclusions based on scant evidence.

### **Eoanthropus dawsoni & Heidelberg Man**

On December 18, 1912, Dawson and Woodward presented their findings to the Geological Society. The reconstructed skull, they declared, was that of *Eoanthropus Dawsoni*, or “Dawson’s Dawn Man,” a human ancestor that lived half a million years ago during the Lower Pleistocene period. Dawson explained that the *Eoanthropus* had interesting features with a more human-like skull and ape-like jaw. It fitted into the erroneous theory of the

time that the evolution of the human brain had preceded changes in the jaw to adapt to a new diet.

Before Dawson's discovery, a political rivalry was already in play. German anthropologist Otto Schoetensack discovered the "Heidelberg Man," the oldest human fossil in existence. The ancient human jaw was found in 1907 near Mauer, 10 miles southeast of Heidelberg, Germany. The extinct species is believed to have lived 600,000 to 200,000 years ago in Africa, Europe, and possibly Asia.

Charles Dawson was among those who wanted Britain to take the lead in this area of archaeological discovery. Dawson wrote a letter to Woodward, indicating that his specimen would rival *Homo heidelbergensis*. And, because the Piltdown man's skull was bigger than earlier human skull discoveries, he believed that the Piltdown Man was a more highly evolved early human and a credit to Great Britain.

### The Hoax Exposed

Dawson's hoax was revealed in 1949 after a new dating technology changed scientific opinion on the age of the remains. Using fluorine tests, Dr. Kenneth Oakley, a geologist at the Natural History Museum, discovered that the Piltdown remains were only 50,000 years old.

The Piltdown Man could not have been the Missing Link between humans and apes, because *Homo sapiens* were already walking the earth and finding ways to adapt and survive.

One by one, the Piltdown house of cards began to crumble. Oxford University biological anthropologist Dr. Joseph Weiner and human anatomist Wilfrid Le Gros Clark showed that the skull and jaw fragments came from two different species, a human and an ape, probably an orangutan. Viewed under a microscope, scratches on the surfaces of the teeth revealed that the teeth had been filed down to make them look human.

Additionally, the Piltdown site had been artificially stained to match the local gravels, and the bones stained to appear much older than they were.

### Officially Refuted

It was not until November 21, 1953 – 41 years later – that the greatest scientific fraud of the 20th century was officially refuted. The *Times* reprinted a study from the Museum of Natural History, in which scientists Kenneth Page Oakley, Wilfrid Le Gros Clark, and Joseph Weiner applied new techniques, proving that the Piltdown Man "was a carefully crafted fraud." Chemical analysis revealed that the fossils had been stained with iron and potassium dichromate to make them look much older than they were.



A replica of the alleged Piltdown Man skull.  
(Photo by [Mike Peel via Creative Commons](#))

Other scientists, including German anthropologist Franz Weidenreich, argued that the Piltdown Man was a jigsaw of a modern human skull and an orangutan jaw with filed teeth.

Additionally, Miles Russell, an archaeologist at the UK's Bournemouth University and author of *Piltdown Man: The Secret Life of Charles Dawson* (Tempus, 2003) and *The Piltdown Man Hoax: Case Closed* (The History Press, 2012), made clear that Dawson was an accomplished master fraudster driven to achieve scientific recognition:

*Piltdown is less a "one-off" fraud and more the final stage in a career of hoaxes, 38 in total, that Dawson created to advance his academic standing. When he died, Piltdown died with him, there being no more finds from the dig, which went on for a further 21 years after his death.*

The Piltdown Man hoax could have been solved decades earlier if the scientific community had been granted access to the materials. And Charles Dawson would have been called out as a con artist if his history of dishonesty had been revealed. He had plagiarized a historical account of Hastings Castle and pretended to be an official part of the Sussex Archaeological Society.





**Group portrait by John Cooke (1915) of the Piltdown skull being examined by (back row from left) F. O. Barlow, G. Elliot Smith, Charles Dawson, Arthur Smith Woodward and (front row) A. S. Underwood, Arthur Keith, W. P. Pycraft, and Ray Lankester.**

Ultimately, he attained international notoriety by fooling the scientific community for more than 40 years with his contrived pseudo-science.

### Science Is Suffocated

According to Nandini Subramaniam of the Science History Institute, Dawson's trickery is only too commonplace in a field that relies on fragmentary physical evidence and a need to fill in the blanks:

*Archaeology — where fantasies about lost worlds, hidden treasures, and forgotten civilizations are abundant — is still fertile ground for this mischief. Television shows such as “Ancient Aliens” and “Ancient Apocalypse” feed the idea of an explainable gap — a missing link, perhaps — in human prehistory during which extraterrestrials or the holdovers of a long-lost civilization handed ancient peoples the technology archaeologists unearth today. These shows are rooted in the same kind of fallacies that grounded Piltdown Man — thin evidence, skewed facts, and veiled agendas.*

These veiled agendas contributed to the recognition of the Piltdown Man. Dawson's hoax was accepted by English politicians and archaeological scholars, asserting national pride while championing “The Earliest Englishman” as an older rival to Germany's Heidelberg Man.

Others, such as paleontologist Henry Osborn, promoted racist theories, claiming this Missing Link as proof that

humans evolved separately, not from African apes, but from an Asian toolmaking forerunner he called Dawn Man. Osborn contended that Piltdown Man was an early link between Dawn Man and modern humans.

Before the “Missing Link” hypothesis was exposed as fraudulent, many academic and scientific institutions accepted the Piltdown Man as a legitimate finding supporting a unique human evolution concept. But, an incomplete flow of information and a flawed conclusion proved detrimental to the scientific method, observed writer Samuel Redman:

*Soon after the discovery, a few gatekeepers cut access to the original materials in England. Science is suffocated when researchers are unable to reliably corroborate claims made by others. The same issues arise today, with the research community grappling with what's been called a reproducibility crisis; scientists need access to evidence and data in order to replicate (or not) research results.*

The scientific community was harmed when international scholars were denied access to Dawson's original archeological evidence. Still, Redman determined that the controversy paradoxically helped to encourage today's open science movement, promoting transparency at every step of the scientific process.

### Unmasking a Century-Old Deception

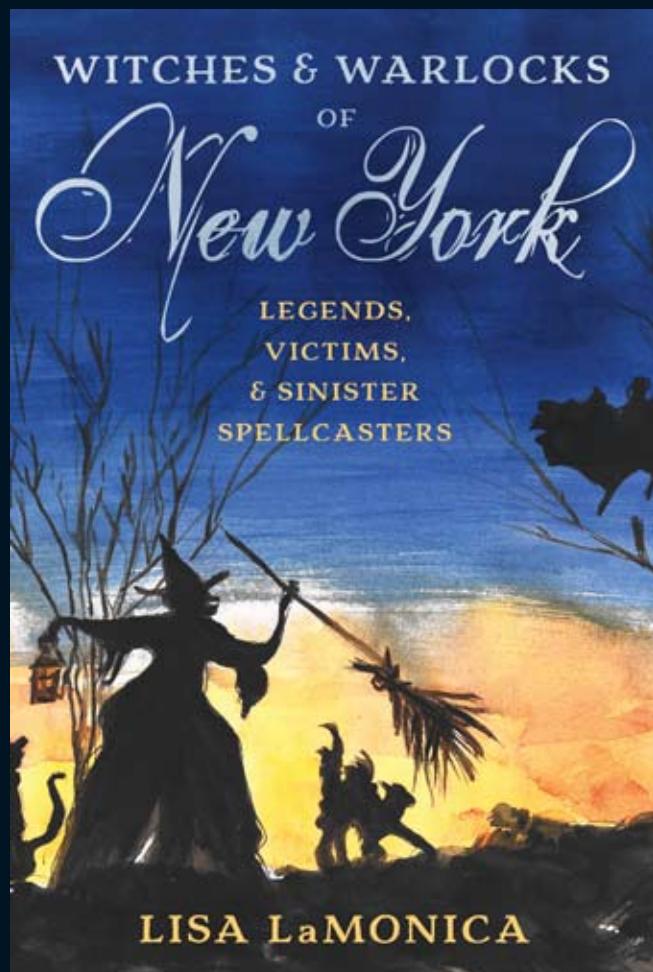
The mystery of the Piltdown Man hoax has been ongoing. Individuals suspected of creating this hoax include Dawson, Martin Hinton, and even Arthur Conan Doyle, the author of the Sherlock Holmes novels. Although the culprit may never be known, Alex Boese, in his book *The Museum of Hoaxes*, concludes that:

*Whoever perpetrated the crime, it is considered to be one of the most damaging scientific hoaxes of all time because it set the development of evolutionary theory back for years while researchers labored pointlessly to integrate a fake skull into the fossil record.*

In August 2016, professor Isabelle De Groote, at the Research Centre in Evolutionary Anthropology and Palaeoecology at Liverpool John Moores University, published, “New Genetic and Morphological Evidence Suggests a Single Hoaxer Created Piltdown Man.” In her article, she points her finger directly at Dawson and determines that he is most likely the individual behind one of history's most incredible hoaxes. ♦



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# THE ISLAND OF THE DOLLS: MEXICO'S MOST CHILLING AND UNUSUAL HAUNT

BY CHERYL KNIGHT-WILSON



The canals of Xochimilco, south of Mexico City, are known for their vibrant trajinera boats, lush scenery, and floating gardens. Yet, hidden among the beauty is a site that evokes fascination and fear in equal measure — *La Isla de las Muñecas*, or The Island of the Dolls.

Draped in an eerie stillness, this island is a macabre spectacle, with decaying dolls hanging from every tree, their lifeless eyes and twisted limbs telling a haunting story. Once a quiet retreat, it has become one of Mexico's most unusual haunted locations, drawing the curious and the brave from around the world.

## A Legend Rooted in Tragedy

The Island of the Dolls' chilling tale begins with Don Julián Santana Barrera, a recluse who chose the island as

his refuge in the 1950s. According to local lore, Julián discovered the body of a young girl who had drowned in the canal surrounding his island. Stricken with guilt for not being able to save her, he began to believe that her spirit lingered on the island, restless and tormented.

Soon after her death, Julián claimed to experience strange and inexplicable events. To appease the girl's spirit, he hung dolls on the trees. He would collect discarded dolls from trash heaps and waterways, placing them around the island as offerings.

Over the decades, the collection grew into a nightmarish display of mutilated and weather-worn figures, each more disturbing than the last. Visitors often note that the dolls seem to embody the sadness of the drowned girl, as if channeling her energy.



**The Island of the Dolls captivates visitors with chilling tales of paranormal activity. (Photo: [Vibe Adventures](#))**

### **Haunted Phenomena That Chill to the Core**

The Island of the Dolls is not only unsettling for its macabre aesthetic, but also for the paranormal activity reported by visitors. Witnesses frequently describe hearing whispers, disembodied voices, and eerie giggles. Some claim the dolls' eyes follow them as they navigate the island, while others have reported feeling an oppressive presence, as if they are being watched.

One of the most spine-chilling accounts involves the dolls themselves. Visitors and locals alike insist they have seen the dolls move, their arms and heads shifting as though animated by an unseen force. Don Julián himself believed that the dolls had become vessels for the spirits of the dead, especially the young girl whose life had ended so tragically.

Tourists often report a sensation of being drawn to certain dolls, which seem to emanate an inexplicable energy. Skeptics suggest this could be the power of suggestion, but for believers, these occurrences are a sign that the island is alive with spectral activity.

### **Don Julián's Mysterious Death**

The haunting tale of the Island of the Dolls took a darker turn in 2001, when Don Julián Santana Barrera was found dead. Strangely, his body was discovered in the same canal where he claimed to have found the drowned girl decades earlier. Some speculate that his death was the

final act in a decades-long connection to the spirit world, while others see it as a tragic coincidence.

Since his passing, visitors to the island believe his spirit remains alongside the girl's, watching over his eerie collection. Guides who ferry tourists to the site claim that the island feels "heavier" since Julián's death, with some saying they've seen his shadow wandering among the trees.

### **A Destination for the Brave**

Reaching the Island of the Dolls is an adventure in itself. Accessible only by boat, the journey through Xochimilco's serene canals contrasts starkly with the unsettling atmosphere of the island. As you approach, the sight of tattered, dirt-streaked dolls swaying in the breeze signals that you're entering a different realm.

Despite its ominous reputation, the island has become a popular destination for those drawn to the macabre and the paranormal. Many visitors bring their own dolls to add to the collection, contributing to the island's eerie allure. Others come armed with cameras and recording devices, hoping to capture evidence of the supernatural.

For paranormal investigators, the Island of the Dolls offers a unique opportunity to explore an environment steeped in folklore and fear. Some have captured strange sounds and inexplicable movements on video, adding to the island's reputation as a place where the veil between the living and the dead feels particularly thin. ◆

# ARE ALIENS US?

## Dr. Michael Masters Explores Time Travel and Human Evolution

By Sean Casteel, Spectral Vision

**U**nlike most of his peers and contemporaries, Dr. Michael Masters is an academic who believes that time travel is genuinely possible.

Masters holds a Ph.D. in anthropology from Ohio State University and is currently on the faculty at Montana Tech. He has written two books on the anomalous relationship between extraterrestrials and the nature of time, *Identified Flying Objects: A Multidisciplinary Approach to the UFO Phenomenon* and *The Extratemporal Model*.

In summarizing his first book, *Identified Flying Objects*, Masters writes on his website that it “represents a unique examination of long-term evolutionary change in human biology, culture and technology as it pertains to the question of ‘UFOs’ and ‘Aliens.’ This study carefully considers the possibility that the individuals described in reliable reports of close encounters may represent our distant human descendants, returning from the future to visit and study their own evolutionary past.”

Having participated in and directed many archeological digs in Africa, France, and throughout the United States, Masters says it is easy to conceptualize just how much more could be learned about our own evolutionary history and the environments of the past if we could simply create the technology to actually journey to the past in a literal and physical sense. He adds that with the accelerating pace of change in material science, technology, and engineering, it is likely that future humans will develop the knowledge and machinery required to travel to the past.

Changes in human evolution, Masters writes, consist primarily of determined shifts toward habitual upright walking, changes in brain size and shape, facial reduction, reduced body hair, higher intelligence, and the development of increasingly complex tools and culture. These changes have happened throughout the evolution of hominins and “have persisted despite marked modifications to our subsistence strategy, climate, ecology, envi-



**Are UFOs and their occupants future humans using time travel to study their own evolutionary past? The concept raises intriguing questions about the nature of time, evolution, and human progress.**

ronment, and systems of social, economic, and political organization.”

Furthermore, according to numerous and credible close encounter experiencers, the visitors observed are most often described as bipedal, hairless, humanlike beings, with large brains and eyes and small noses and mouths. The alien creatures appear to have their own cultural and social organization. They can breathe our air and communicate with us in our own languages. They possess technology far in advance of our own, but “clearly built upon our own.”

Masters believes that by combining a thorough understanding of our past with our modern human condition, the accounts of human UFO experiencers demonstrate the continuation of established biological and cultural trends here on Earth long into the distant future. In other words, given where we came from and how we are now, it is possible to visualize our further evolutionary transformation into the hairless, large-headed grey “alien,” an entity who has not only changed physically, but has also developed time travel to the extent that he can observe and even direct earlier stages of his own evolution.

Modern man could be but a link in a long chain that may one day begin to double back on itself.

Dr. Masters answered some questions for me by email, and what follows here are his responses.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Q: What first gave you the idea that the UFO phenomenon, rather than being extraterrestrials, could instead be visitors from the future? What was the first seed of that concept, and where did it grow from there?**

**Dr. Masters:** My fascination with the UFO enigma began when I was about eight years old, and I overheard my father talking about a UFO encounter he once had prior to my birth. Shortly thereafter, he bought Whitley Strieber’s book *Communion: A True Story*. My curiosity was catapulted forward one afternoon when I happened to glance up at the living room shelf and noticed the eerie image of that archetypal “grey alien” on the front cover of Strieber’s book.

Upon seeing this obscure alien figure, with its broad forehead, small face, narrow chin, and large haunting black eyes, I remember being moved by an ephemeral image that entered my mind. It encompassed three humanoid creatures visualized together. On the left side was something like a chimpanzee, or an early hominin form, in the middle was a nondescript modern human, and on the right was that odd, yet entirely familiar, alien creature from the book’s cover. Even at a young age, and knowing nothing of phylogenetic relationships, it was evident that the human in the center of this mental image resembled both the “chimpanzee” to the left and the “alien” to the right, which led me to wonder if we could all be related.

This experience, which I now understand as an instance of conscious precognition that may have also involved some sort of “download,” was the impetus for



**Dr. Masters’ theories stem from research into human evolution, suggesting that trends such as larger brains, reduced facial features, and advanced technology may persist into the distant future.**

my deep dive into the UFO phenomenon. The striking similarity between this “alien” and ourselves caused me to question whether our distant descendants could be using backward time-travel technology to visit and study their own past. With further research into human biocultural evolution, procured while pursuing a Ph.D. and subsequent career in biological anthropology, the scope of this potential paradigm expanded.

**Q: Given our phenomenal technological development over many millennia, you feel it is possible we may one day invent a device that allows us to travel to the past. You also feel the ubiquitous grey aliens may in fact be our future descendants. Could you expound on that?**

**Dr. Masters:** Given humanity’s long track record of accelerating cultural and technological progress, if there is nothing that disallows backward time travel, and the vast majority of philosophers and physicists believe that to be the case, once we have the right materials, technology, knowledge, and a large enough energy source to power this type of craft, we are likely to build one.



Furthermore, if these are our descendants, who are already in possession of such devices, taking seriously their presence in our times may provide an early glimpse into how our current technology will advance beyond its present state and how we may someday develop aircraft capable of defying gravity and manipulating spacetime.

With regard to the physiological form of these visitors, although we can't yet know how ensuing forces will impact the physiology and culture of our descendants, examining dominant trends throughout the hominin past may provide some insight into our future form. For instance, among the most overt and enduring changes were an increase in size and roundness of our upper skulls and a concomitant reduction and retraction of our mid and lower facial anatomy. These craniofacial changes arose in association with our ancestors becoming habitually bipedal, which initially occurred 6–8 million years ago.

These most marked changes to our craniofacial architecture persisted and accelerated throughout the entirety of hominin evolution, regardless of where we lived on this planet or what our environmental conditions were like at any given time. Considering the enduring nature of these and other past trends, what is observed in the appearance and behavior of the visitors, while alien to what we are now, is entirely consistent with what has occurred throughout the human past and what may be our evolutionary future.

Moreover, the majority are described as symmetrical, four-limbed, pentadactyl, bipedal, large-brained, humanlike or entirely human beings, with two gut openings, large round heads, enlarged eyes, small faces, and relative hairlessness, who are capable of communicating in our languages, breathing our air, and who possess technology advanced beyond, but seemingly built upon, our own. These accounts, coupled with a thorough understanding of the past and modern human condition, point to the continuation of established biological and cultural trends here on Earth, long into the distant human future.

**Q: How could it possibly be that we're guiding our own evolution by intervening from the future? There would still have to be some origin point for our species, wouldn't there? Where could we really be said to begin?**

**Dr. Masters:** Consistency paradoxes, like the grandfather paradox, as well as the causal loop paradox (AKA the bootstrap paradox), where something from the future aids in its own creation by being a part of its past, despite their names, aren't paradoxical. The common heuristic device for understanding causal loops typically involves someone creating something or having an impactful idea, which, through the mechanism of backward time travel, is revealed to an earlier version of themselves.

This past person then uses the newly acquired information for some outcome, and later in life, they become the one traveling back through time to convey that information to their younger self, in a sort of infinite, self-consistent, causal loop of creation and dissemination.

This scenario may appear to laugh in the face of causality. However, when understood within the framework of a closed loop of self-consistent events, causality becomes irrelevant, as does the question of who created

the original idea or invention taken back through time. In the same way that a rounded ball has no identifiable faces, edges, or vertices, one cannot pinpoint a specific origin point for our species if we're guiding our own evolution by intervening from the future, since both the return-to and return-from points at each "end" of the loop exist as eternally integrated instances across that specific region of block time.

The apparent perplexity of these scenarios largely stems from the fact that our perception of time is habitually derived from obstinate observations of linearly organized events, with clearly defined boundaries between a past cause and a future effect. Yet, in the presence of a time machine, events in the future can elicit an effect in the past, because neither comes before or after the other.



**Dr. Michael Masters explores the possibility that UFOs and their occupants may be time-traveling humans from the future.**



**What if UFOs are glimpses of humanity's distant future? This theory suggests time travel could be the key to unlocking our own evolutionary story.**

**Q: The obvious evolutionary trends are to increasing hairlessness and bigger brains. Might we eventually become ephemeral creatures of pure thought? Might we perhaps cease to be physical at all?**

**Dr. Masters:** It's something of a leap to extrapolate trends of hairlessness and encephalization to becoming ephemeral creatures of pure thought. However, speaking anecdotally, and purely from personal experience, I have communicated with a non-local intelligence that alluded to being future-human in origin, who was capable of communicating telepathically, who knew my personal thoughts that were never spoken aloud, and who knew the future.

One interpretation of this encounter could potentially be that at some point in the distant human future, our consciousness becomes capable of extracorporeal travel and interaction with various past human consciousnesses. However, other explanations should also be considered, as this experience falls outside our current conceptualization of conventional reality.

**Q: Your work in anthropology has doubtless brought you in touch with ancient civilizations and their beliefs in various guiding spirits. Could we be the gods of mythology ourselves? Does the**

**ability to travel back in time make for a kind of omnipotence or godlike control?**

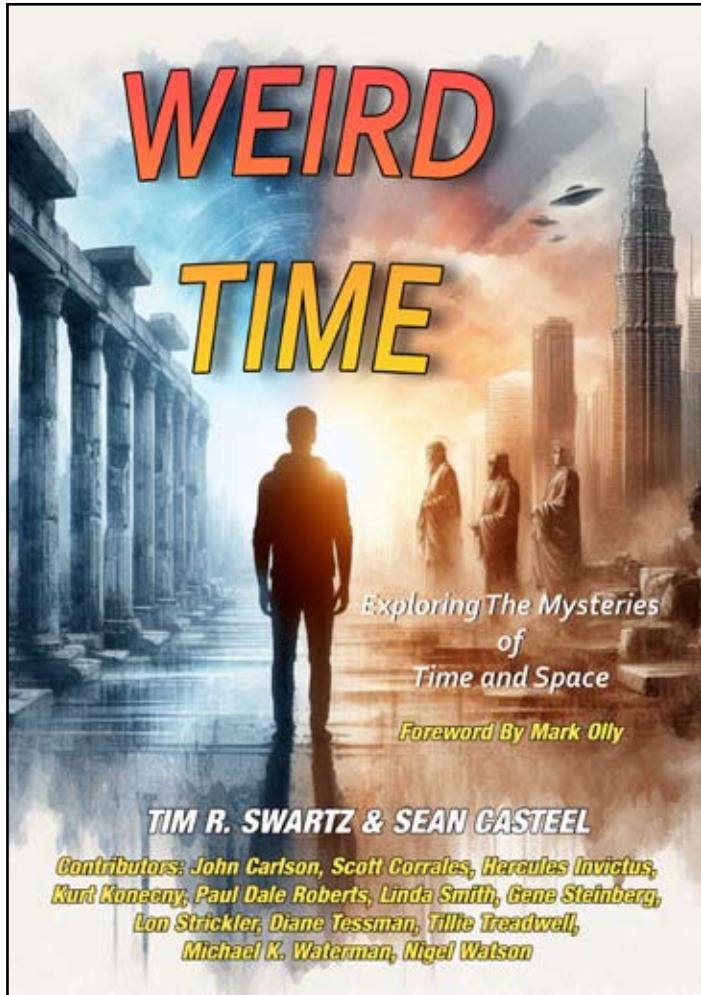
**Dr. Masters:** Contact with, wonderment of, and a likely perception of Extratempestrials (time traveling future humans) as gods, would be expected to manifest itself in various ways throughout the past. The ubiquity of intentional cranial modification may be one indication of this. Ethnographic research into this practice has revealed that certain cultural groups engaged in cranial modification because they were instructed by or they wished to mimic god-like beings.

It is also important to consider that most forms of cranial modification result in a taller and broader forehead, more prominent and protruding eyes, and a smaller and more retracted face. As such, in some cultural groups, this practice could have been influenced by a desire to look like our time traveling descendants, who would be expected to possess such characteristics as a result of their further evolutionary development through time.

This form of craniofacial mimicry would also be expected if past peoples perceived future peoples as gods due in part to their more advanced technology, language, style of dress, and distinctive morphological features.

Whether the visitors are a product of time, space, a





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higher consciousness or something else entirely, until we achieve a similar level of progress, these craft and their occupants will persist as profoundly magical. If they are our descendants descending into their own past, these visitors' presence would be perceived in highly variable ways as they travel farther back in time, which could have given rise to legends of fairies, djinn, genies, angels, demons, prophets, and gods.

Naturally, the farther back in time these travelers went, the more primitive we would seem to them and the more advanced they would seem to our ancestors, likely resulting in their being misconstrued as deities at various points throughout our collective past.

**Q: How have your two books been received by your fellow academics? One recalls the backlash**

that affected Dr. John Mack at Harvard when he wrote about alien abduction.

**Dr. Masters:** A couple years before publishing *Identified Flying Objects* in 2019, I remember nervously approaching the chair of my department to tell him I was writing a book about UFOs, which examines their origins in the context of time travel and human evolution. I mentioned that I wanted him to be aware of this work in case any negative repercussions arose from it so as to not catch him off guard. His response was not at all what I expected.

I vividly recall him looking back at me, with squinted eyes and a perplexed look on his face, while students shuffled busily by us in the hallway between classes, and after a brief pause, he shook his head and obstinately stated. "That's our job. We're supposed to be researching things like that." He then cast one last look of relative disgust about why a scientist would ever question their job as a scientist and abruptly turned and walked away, slowly disappearing into the amalgamated herd of scholarly youths as they cascaded out the door behind him.

A couple of months after the book came out, it began garnering broad national and international attention. During this time, I was congratulated by the chancellor of my university at our end-of-year award ceremony since he had just seen a feature article that Fox News published about my work. During this congratulatory handshake, there was not the slightest hint of embarrassment or disdain for this UFO research making international news.

Other surprising positive events also ensued, as the following semester I was asked by the head of the honors program to teach a class centered around the research in this book and about the UFO topic more broadly. As one of the top science and engineering schools in the Pacific Northwest, this signaled a welcome change in institutional perceptions of research in this area.

Additionally, in May 2022, I received an Excellence in Research and Scholarship award from the dean of my college. To highlight the relevance of this divulgence, it should be noted that the majority of my scholarship activities over the previous year leading up to the reception of this award centered exclusively on researching and writing about the UFO question. I don't acknowledge these accolades to crow about the open mindedness of my institution or those who work in its administration, but rather to highlight how much has changed through time regarding the evolution of our understanding, and ability to openly discuss in a serious scientific manner, the more mysterious aspects of this new reality.

*The above is a chapter excerpt, republished with permission, from the 2024 book "Weird Time: Exploring the Mysteries of Time and Space." ♦*

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# ECHOES IN THE OZARKS

## THE LEGEND OF THE OZARK HOWLER

By Corey Sharer

The Ozark Howler, a creature of legend and mystery, has captured the imaginations of many in the Ozark Mountain Region. Known for its eerie, unearthly howl, the Ozark Howler has been described in varying ways over the years, leading to speculation, debate, and fascination.

This cryptid is often said to resemble a large black cat, with thick, shaggy fur, piercing red or yellow eyes, and sometimes even antler-like horns atop its head. Though sightings have been sparse and fleeting, the legend persists, capturing the eerie allure of the wilderness.

### Mythic Guardian or Modern Tall Tale?

Tales of the Ozark Howler have been passed down through generations, primarily in the Ozarks — a mountain range that spans parts of Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Kansas. The region's thick forests, winding rivers, and deep hollows provide the perfect environment for a creature to hide, contributing to the Ozark Howler's mystique.

Some attribute its origins to Native American folklore, suggesting it might be a spirit or a supernatural being meant to protect the land or warn against misfortune. Others believe it has more modern origins, possibly a tall tale that developed in the 19th or 20th century to keep children away from dangerous areas in the wilderness.

### A Haunting Cry Echoing Through the Ozarks

One of the creature's defining characteristics is its distinctive cry, which has been described as a mix between a wolf's howl and a cougar's scream. This sound is said to echo through the valleys, particularly on dark, misty nights, sending chills down the spines of those who hear it.

Some hunters and hikers have reported hearing this sound, only to find no clear source when they attempt to investigate. The howl has been variously reported as



The Ozark Howler is described as a large, shaggy creature with dark fur and glowing red or yellow eyes. Some accounts add antler-like horns.

mournful, terrifying, or hauntingly beautiful, adding to the ambiguity surrounding the creature's true nature.

### Debating the Legend: Myth, Misidentification, or Mystery?

Skeptics argue that the Ozark Howler is nothing more than an exaggerated myth, pointing to the lack of concrete evidence. Many believe that supposed sightings could simply be misidentified cougars or bears, animals that were once native to the Ozark region and known for their own eerie calls.

While cougars are considered extinct in much of the Midwest, there have been scattered sightings of the big cats in recent years, which could explain some of the Ozark Howler's reported appearances. Others suggest that the creature might be a cultural echo of the Black Dog legends, supernatural omens often associated with death in British and Appalachian folklore.

Cryptozoologists, or those who study hidden or undiscovered animals, have taken an interest in the Ozark Howler, categorizing it alongside other mysteri-

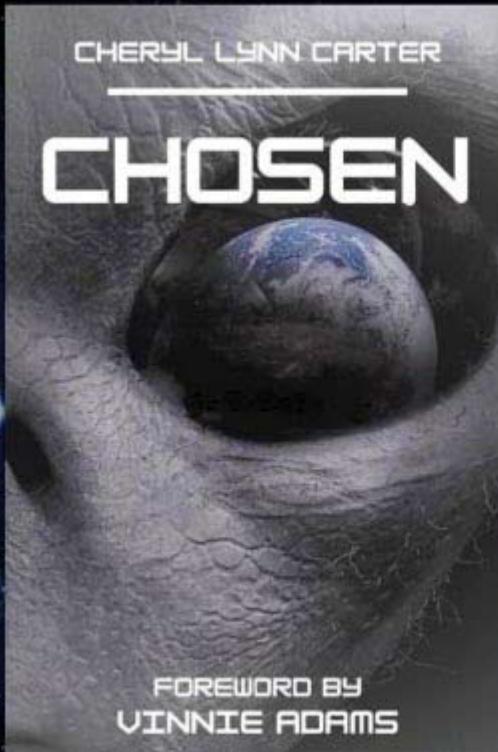
ous creatures such as Bigfoot and the Chupacabra. Some enthusiasts speculate it might belong to a rare or unknown species of feline, while others embrace the possibility of a supernatural explanation. Despite the absence of definitive proof, occasional reports and sightings keep the legend alive, fueling speculation and inspiring continued exploration in the Ozarks.



### A Symbol of Wilderness and Mystery

The Ozark Howler's mystery is deepened by the landscape itself. The Ozark Mountains, with their caves, dense forests, and isolated communities, seem to invite tales of the unknown. Whether the creature is a myth, a misidentified animal, or something truly beyond explanation, the Ozark Howler embodies the spirit of the region — a rugged, mysterious, and untamed wilderness.

Its legend serves as a reminder of the wildness that still exists in the world and the mysteries that remain unsolved, just out of reach, hidden in the shadows of the night. ◆



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# GHOSTS OF THE BATTLE OF HARPERS FERRY

By Warren Gray

*When you have eliminated all which is impossible, then whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth.*

— Arthur Conan Doyle, *The Case-Book of Sherlock Holmes* (1927)

The Battle of Harpers Ferry, Virginia (now in West Virginia), took place from September 12 to September 15, 1862, with Confederate Major General Lafayette McLaws and Brigadier General Joseph B. Kershaw, and their 8,000 men sweeping down from the north to seize Maryland Heights in the opening phase of the battle. This is a 1,476-foot crest, known as Elk Ridge before the war, with foothills on both sides.

Between the summit and the nearby Potomac River is the small village of Pleasantville, Maryland, where a winding, dirt road was used to resupply a Union gun battery under the command of Colonel Thomas H. Ford of the 32nd Ohio Infantry Regiment, with approximately 120 Union soldiers encamped on-site.

At dawn on September 13, 1862, thousands of Kershaw's South Carolina troops rounded a forested bend in the road, turning south, and instantly came face-to-face with Ford's artillery unit. A brief but violent skirmish ensued, with gunfire from both sides, and the overwhelmed Union soldiers hastily retreated down to the river behind them, and across it, into the besieged town of Harpers Ferry. Several Confederate soldiers were shot, and at least nine Union soldiers were killed in action during this brief engagement.

For the past 22 years, I've lived on the property where this same skirmish took place, at the site of the Union encampment. Very soon after moving in, I personally saw the misty-gray, full-body outline of a Union soldier carrying a musket with both hands, moving toward the former artillery battery area for a full eight seconds. There was no mistaking this tall, eerie figure for anything else.

Other people living in the neighborhood also saw Civil War soldiers in motion, so mine was certainly not an isolated incident. However, we had no similar events until more recently.

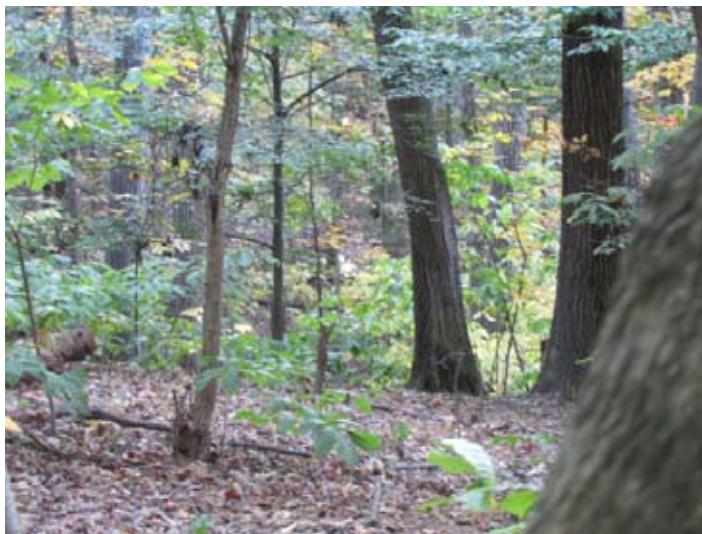


**Union soldiers crossing a pontoon bridge.**  
(Image source: [history.army.mil](http://history.army.mil))

## Civil War Echoes: EVPs & Unexplained Lights

On October 19, 2020, at 2:39 a.m., there were unexplained footsteps near a trail camera in my neighbor's front yard, and a wispy, white mist swept by. This was precisely at the fateful bend in the road where the Confederate horde first encountered the Union artillerymen in 1862 and the shooting began.

The very next morning, on October 20, 2020, I was walking along the road at 5:08 AM in the pre-dawn darkness, as I do almost every day for exercise, near this same,



**Bright, unexplained lights illuminated this dense 45-foot-deep ravine and creek area. (Photos: Warren Gray)**

front-yard, trail camera. It took my photograph, and then, just 10 seconds later, when I was approximately 25 feet away, a disembodied voice with a slight, Southern accent said, "C'mon, boy." I never heard it myself, but it was very clearly recorded as an electronic voice phenomenon by the trail camera.

Interestingly enough, this muted, "C'mon, boy" statement was apparently a residual haunt, repeated on October 25, 2020, at 6:22 a.m., a mere five seconds after I walked past the camera, and on December 11, 2020, at 8:28 a.m., at exactly the same location, also only five seconds after my wife and I walked past the location. The EVP seemed to be triggered by human presence.

There were no more paranormal incidents for the next four years, until Saturday, October 12, 2024, at 11:10 p.m., when my neighbor's front porch security camera, on exactly the same property where the 2020 EVPs were recorded, registered two audible knocks at the front door, yet no one was visible.

Then, one week later, on October 19, 2024, at 11:02 a.m., in his back yard, a woodpile, secured on the back and both sides by a sturdy, wooden frame, was suddenly knocked over for no apparent reason, with the strange event captured on a security camera.

That very same evening, I was deer hunting in the forest behind his yard, with the owner's written permission, and at 6:50 p.m., I witnessed a very odd array of bright lights far down in the 45-foot-deep ravine beside my deer stand. The sun had already set well below the southwestern horizon at 6:25 p.m., with the very last light of day coming at 6:52 p.m., so it was very dark in the dense forest, but these lights were quite bright.

### *From ghostly whispers to unexplained lights, my own paranormal encounters continued to amaze me.*

I first speculated that it may have been an ATV operated by hunters from across the ridgeline, possibly searching for a deer that they may have shot. But this was during muzzleloader season, and I had heard no gunshots at all. Then, I reasoned that perhaps they had a small, hunting camp down at the creek below, with a tent and lanterns. But I heard no voices, so it was certainly an odd sighting.

### **Haunting Whispers and More Mysterious Lights**

Later, on Tuesday, October 22, 2024, as I had finished hunting for the evening, I saw the strange lights yet again. I took two photographs with my cell phone. The sun had set at 6:21 p.m., with last light at 6:48 p.m., so this was in total darkness, at 6:50 p.m.

On the following morning, I returned to the scene on my ATV and took one photograph at 7:10 a.m., showing the same area to still be illuminated, but very dimly, with first light at 7:01 a.m. and sunrise at 7:28 a.m. This time, however, the sun was at an entirely different angle and could not have reflected any light from creek water in the ravine.

In order to investigate these strange lights, my neighbor (from the affected property) and I descended into the ravine at nine a.m. on Wednesday, October 23. It was a total wilderness area, with no signs of ATV tracks or human footprints. There was certainly no camping area in the ravine, although we did find a groundhog hole and an area where a black bear had scraped the ground.

So, there was no indication at all of a human source for the lights. We guessed that they may have somehow come from reflections of light off pools of water, but with the bright lights clearly visible even after sunset and before



sunrise, the light-reflection theory made no sense. It was still a mystery.

From the point where we stopped, we crossed the creek and climbed straight up the slope of the ravine to determine where it aligned with the neighbors' property lines. Almost unbelievably, we emerged at the top of the ridgeline exactly where his woodpile was stacked. Was that a mere coincidence?

I returned to the ravine on my own that same evening at 5 p.m., encountering a solitary deer and a pool of running water at the approximate site of the odd lights. Therefore, the sunlight-refection theory still seemed plausible, but there was no sunlight to be reflected in either instance, which remained puzzling.

I had a K-II Meter and an Olympus VN-7200 digital voice recorder in my vest and performed a three-minute EVP session in the ultra-quiet ravine, standing beside the trickling water.

After only 48 seconds of questions, I asked, "Were you a soldier in the war? The Battle of Harpers Ferry was fought right near here." In reply, I received four seconds of soft, audible, human whispering, sounding like a

complete sentence, but I was unable to decipher what was being said. Why was this EVP recorded beside the creek?

### **Echoes of Harpers Ferry's Haunted Past**

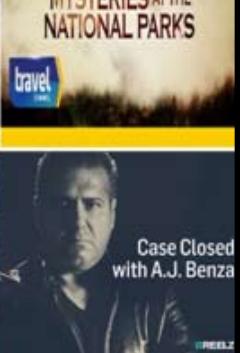
When a person is wounded in battle, the loss of blood makes them feel dehydrated, and they become instantly thirsty. This particular ravine and its flowing creek are less than 150 yards from the road bend where the skirmish began, so it's perfectly logical and quite probable that a wounded, Confederate soldier would move toward the water source, and perhaps one of them died there. Notably, this was the very same property with the previous, repeated, "C'mon, boy" EVPs and the woodpile mysteriously knocked over, at the very top of the ravine.

Over the past 22 years of living here, the incredible combination of actual physical sightings, repeated residual EVPs, door knocking, phantom footsteps, white mist in the darkness, recent poltergeist activity at the woodpile, an inexplicable glow from the ravine, and whispering beside the creek all provide compelling evidence that perhaps some of the ghosts of the Battle of Harpers Ferry are still active after 162 long years. ♦



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# STUFFED TOY DOG BECOMES A PORTAL FOR DARKNESS

BY PAUL DALE ROBERTS, HALO PARANORMAL INVESTIGATIONS

I get a lot of calls on our Paranormal Hotline. At one time, I would investigate cases all over Northern California. Nowadays, because of my busy schedule podcasting and writing articles, I only investigate paranormal hotspots in and around Sacramento.

On November 5, 2024, I received an interesting call from Gloria S. and Ariela L. who live in a home located in Gold River. While they had lived in this home for eight years, paranormal activity began in the home only five months ago.

First, there was tapping on the walls. Then, there were knockings on the wall. At first, they thought they had rats or raccoons living inside the walls and called out a pesticide professional. However, he found no activity of a vermin infestation.

Then, on one night, they heard loud footsteps on the roof of the house. Ariela ran outside to see who was on the roof, but no one was there.

## Cute Gift Turns Creepy With Scary Shadow and Unexplained Scratches

Gloria said that Ariela gave her a cute stuffed dog on Valentine's Day. The stuffed dog held a red heart and a lighted propeller that would read "I Love You" when the song "24K Magic" by Bruno Mars played. After the roof incident, her three cats attacked the stuffed dog. The cats took out an eye and chewed up the propeller.

This behavior from the cats was shocking, according to Gloria, because her cats never tore up things in the house. Gloria placed the stuffed dog on her kitchen counter and was deciding if she was going to keep the damaged stuffed dog or just throw it away.

That night, she heard a loud plate crash on the kitchen floor. Gloria and Ariela ran into the kitchen and saw what they described as a large, demonic shadow against the wall. The shadow seemed to be coming from the stuffed dog. The shadow displayed the heart as being upside down, even though the actual heart on the stuffed dog was not upside down. The heart should not even have



**This cursed toy stuffed dog became the eerie centerpiece of a haunting in Gold River, California.**

shown up on the shadow, because the stuffed dog's torso covered the heart. The shadow also had horns, while the stuffed dog did not have horns, just floppy ears.

Another odd thing was that there was nothing broken on the kitchen floor. When they moved the stuffed dog, the demonic shadow was gone. While Gloria had a hard time getting rid of the stuffed dog, she felt like it had to be done, so she ended up throwing it into the recycle bin.

As Gloria and Ariela went back to bed, they heard the song "24K Magic" coming from the living room. This was impossible because the stuffed dog was in the recycle bin in the garage and the batteries were taken out. Gloria

immediately felt pain on her back, and Ariela discovered four long scratch marks on Gloria's back. This is when Gloria and Ariela decided to contact me.

#### **Did a Curse Unleash Dark Forces?**

I asked Gloria if she had any idea why this paranormal activity started up in her house. She thinks that a woman that was new to their circle of friends may have cursed them. The woman, whom I will call "Jody," dabbled in black magic. When Jody got into a heated argument with the group, the group decided to unfriend her.

Gloria made sure that Jody was no longer invited to events that she and her girlfriends would attend. Jody even called Gloria asking why she was ostracized from the group. When Jody got the explanation, she cursed Gloria and Ariela. Jody told them that they would be tormented.

Gloria asked if I could do a house blessing and conduct a small confidential investigation. I accepted, and our psychic medium Wish Fire and I headed over to her home. I did manage to get two EVPs that sounded like growls. My EMF detector went off in the area where the stuffed dog would sit. Wish Fire detected a small devilish creature that was sitting in the corner of the living room.

She pointed the area out, and that is where I captured the two growling EVPs.

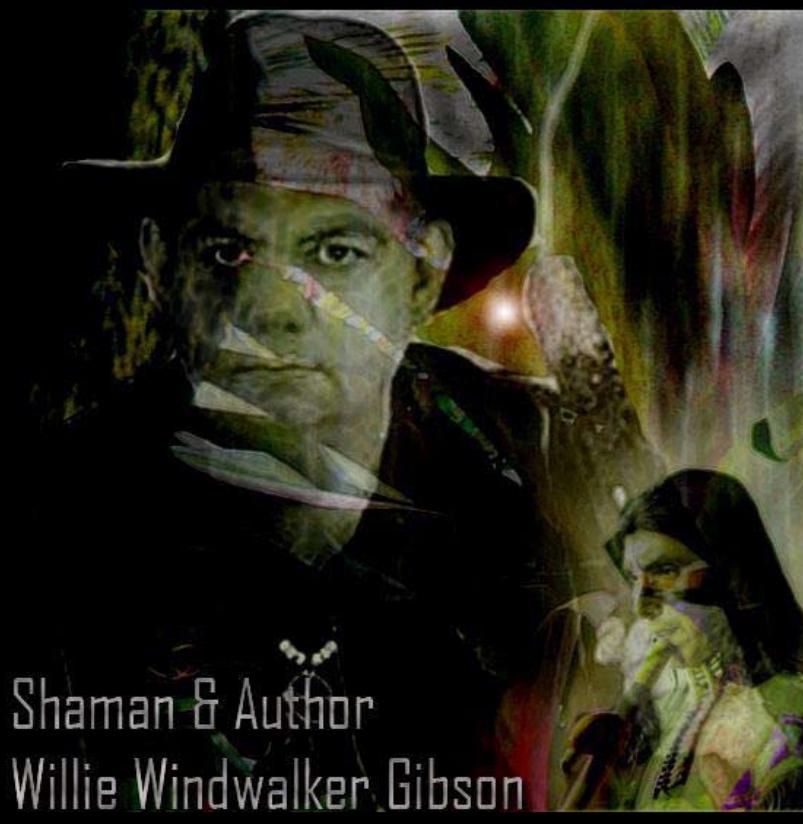
Gloria and Ariela are both Baptist, and I suggested that they invite a few of the congregation members to do a walk-through of the house, say prayers out loud, and sing spiritual songs. On November 7, they did just that. They got three congregation volunteers to come over, and they said prayers out loud throughout the house and then sang spiritual songs.

This method will project so much positive energy into the atmosphere that a demon or anything negative will most likely be compelled to leave. It's like taking a person that only likes rock and roll and taking them to a country music concert. They don't like the country music and will probably leave.

Dolls and stuffed animals can absorb the energy from a deceased person or demon. For example, at the Island of the Dolls in Mexico, some of the dolls appear to be possessed. From eyewitness accounts, the dolls will make strange verbal sounds or their eyes and heads will move.

I believe that Jody's curse opened a door for a demon to possess the stuffed dog. As of now, Gloria and Ariela's house is at peace — there has been no more paranormal activity. ♦

## ***Cursed friendship leads to eerie haunting and EVPs.***



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# Following Spirit's Behest

## Allowing and Letting Go of Life's Ascendancy

By Rainbow Radaelli

One morning while lying in bed, I realized that I was not in control of my life and never really was. I was an island floating upon the stormy waves of my reality. This feeling wasn't an unexpected jolt to my senses, but more a slithering and lingering uninvited guest who stayed beyond their welcome.

The terrifying truth is that I don't remember welcoming it in. My mind became apathetic to spirit taking charge of my life, blinding me to what was actually going on around me until it was too late.

Spirit fervently paved a new path for me to follow. Blurry became the new clear, and upside down was no longer a head rush, but more a perplexing way of seeing life. The world around me not only offered me an escape from my reliquarian ideologies, but a new novel of ideals opened up — page after page taking me into new plot twists, foreign yet enticing.

For one thing, my dreams have taken a U-turn and left me baffled as to what images mean, why I can no longer hear what people are saying. I am constantly being left behind, watching worlds and realms swirl, tumbling by like pedals in the wind.

Nothing has been left unturned — more so my life has been an upheaval of change. I don't like change. So, whoever is doing this to me is very clever. They got my attention.

### Lost Within, Yet Seeking Spirit's Guiding Light

The world around me is teasing my senses, and I can feel everything around me. Yet, I feel I am numb inside with little to no access to myself. I've locked myself out, and I have no clue where the key is. Strange how I can feel such intense emotions when I see the high-desert landscape of home, smells of sagebrush, or bask in the light of illuminated sunshine reflected off of the clouds, but I am a closed shell unto myself. The irony has not been lost on me.

Traipsing along this new path has made me weary of what's on either side of me. I used to walk with the



confidence of a well-traveled rambler, but now I timidly question each step. Let's be real, change does this, and this is why I dislike it so.

In many ways, I dissevered myself and all the while gave no warning of my actions. In the end, I realized that it's not just shedding the skin of the past that is hard, but letting go of ideals that serve no purpose, becoming disappointing and overlapping in meaning. I became stagnant with time.

Dreams of hope became despondent memories of unanswered desires. So, my question to Spirit is, "What now?"

### Shedding Untruths, Embracing Chaos & Finding Peace

I had always assumed I was pragmatic, but looking in the mirror, all I see is a disheveled woman that is anything but this. Following Spirit means shedding each layer of

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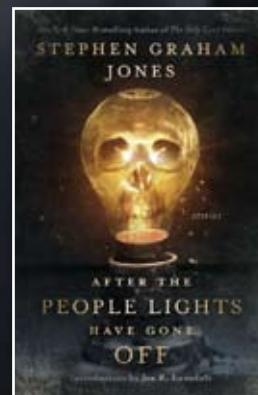
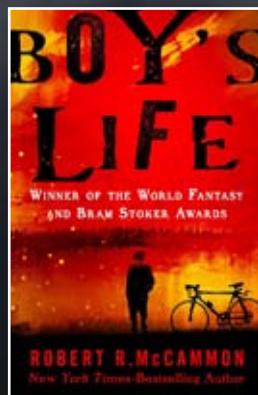
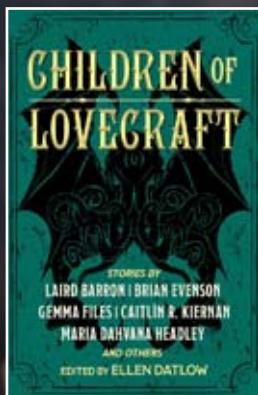
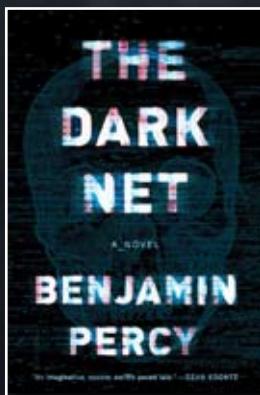
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untruth we see in ourselves. As my layers have fallen off, I am finding that I want to pick them back up and reattach them to my dated self. They will never look as they once did, because they have wilted away, eventually disappearing into the ether of inconsequence.

But not all is lost, especially since Spirit is guiding me on my new anarchic journey. Each step is an unknown feeling, that of a novel guileless *dramatis personae*, and for the first time I am allowing something or someone else to guide me. As I have learned these past few months, it's important to embrace the unknown if not with welcoming arms, at least with tepid enthusiasm.

As I thaw the frozen landscape of my emotions, I have realized that my heart is still beating with the warmth of a thousand suns. It is this oxymoron that perplexes me to no end, because both are a part of me yet parted by the abyss of the infinite and mystical opposites. They are paragons of each part of me, and yet they have nothing in common. The ebb and flow of my soul is at their mercy. All I can do is let go and be in the anomalous chaos we call life.

The really crazy thing is, I tried to change the oceans of doubt I accumulated throughout my life and found that I didn't have the aptitude nor ability to let go of any of it. The acquisitions surpassed my ability to toss anything out the window.

I steadfastly stood my ground in my new state of being and found that I was surrounded by my thoughts of inadequacy. The mirrors to the left and right of me were all relentless, and I finally had to close my eyes and let go for any kind of peace.

### **Losing Yourself to Rediscover the Beauty Within**

Letting go isn't as easy as it sounds. The philosophies of new and old sound really good on paper or when we function at our most radiant and composed selves. Tripping over my incorrigible self wasn't the same as letting go — the feral cat in me clawed her way out, causing me to look like a tattered demilion in disguise.

The uncertainty of the disheveled self leaves so much to be desired, and yet she is a vast part of life. I've spent so much of my life trying not to be her, that now that I am her, I am more foreign to myself than I have ever been. Sometimes in life, we have to lose ourselves in order to find out who we really are. This is truly what life's journey is really all about, not just shedding the past, but rediscovering old memories that we placed away on old, dusty shelves. Some of those memories, as I am finding out, are the new possibilities of who I am becoming now. Not everything from the past has to be thrown out the window with the bath water.

Spirit has such a unique way of leading us back to ourselves. The real test of the journey is to be brave enough to let go. All the trappings of who I was have fallen to the ground. My soul is bare, and being naked to the core is the new norm these days — but for my eyes only.

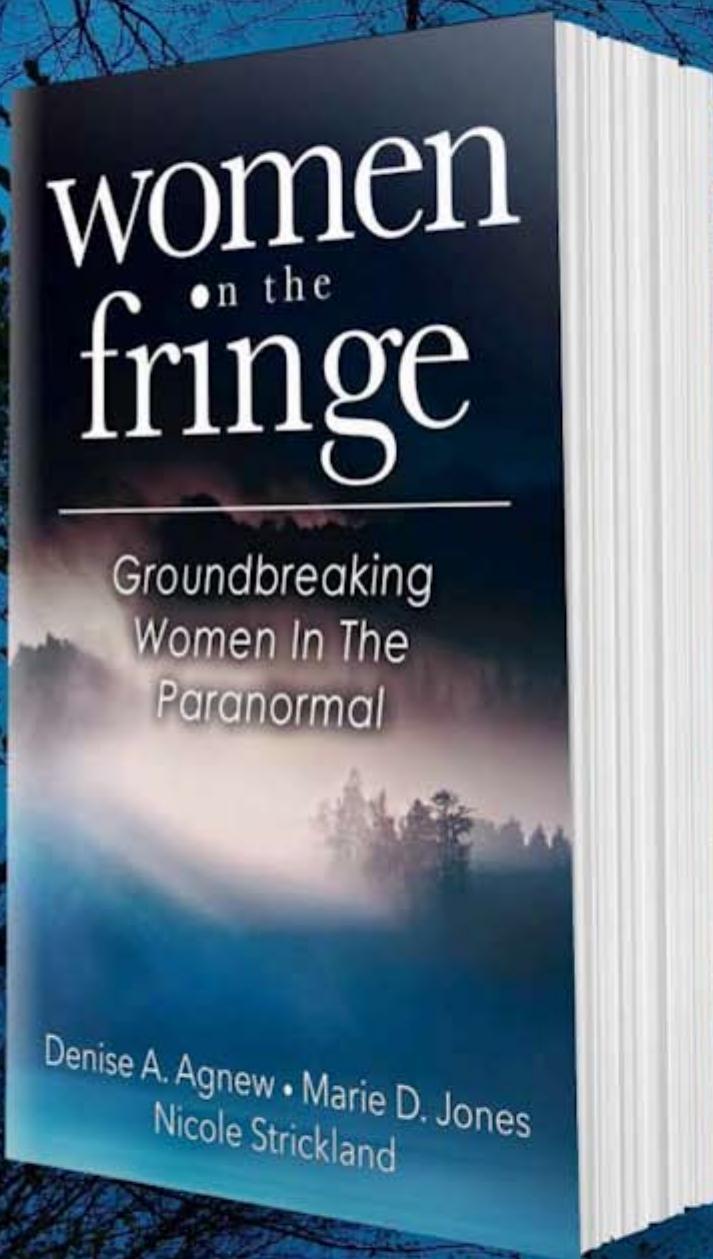
The imperfection of who I am isn't so bad. The new me can only flourish when the pedals of my past are laid to rest. As I walk away from their memories, the ascendancy of life is flourishing into new buds of possibilities. I'm not so bare after all.

*"Sometimes good things fall apart so better things could fall together." — Marilyn Monroe* ◆

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# THE LLANILAR INCIDENT

## Wales' Mysterious UFO Crash

By Cheryl Lynn Carter

The quaint village of Llanilar is nestled on the west coast of South Wales. It is known for its scenic beauty and medieval churches. Then, one day, it became known for something else.

On the early morning of January 9, 1983, Irwel Evans went out to tend to his newly born lambs. As he made his way across the frosty fields, he was surprised to discover strange, metallic debris scattered across all four of his fields. At first, he thought an aircraft had crashed but was unable to find it. There was no engine or mechanical components of any kind. None of the debris resembled anything he had ever seen before. Some of the debris looked like crumpled tin foil.

He notified the local police. They promptly arrived, conducted a brief examination, and then notified the Royal Air Force (RAF) as to how to proceed.

The RAF team and a team from the Ministry of Defense arrived. Also with them were men in black suits who took charge of the investigation. They set up a cordon with surrounding flood lights and began to collect every piece of the material regardless of the size — chunks that were six feet across and tiny fragments.

One piece resembled an aerial, and another section had what looked like a serial number on it. The rest of the debris was extremely light, metal foil or green-grey honeycomb foil sandwiched between metal plates. The investigation would continue late into the night.

Two weeks later, RAF was still unable to confirm the debris as belonging to any known aircraft. No RAF had been out at the time the debris must have landed, and there were no maneuvers. Furthermore, their radar scanners had not detected the incident or anything unusual leading up to the event.

“The debris certainly had nothing to do with us. We are examining the fragments to try to piece them together, in the hope of a clue where it came from and what it is,” according to an RAF spokesperson.



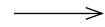
**The Llanilar UFO debris included lightweight, metallic materials with unusual strength.**

### Strange Debris Out of the Sky

Only one newspaper reported the crash of a UFO. On January 23, 1983, *The Express* ran an article titled “Strange Debris Out of the Sky.” They described the investigation on his farm as looking like the set for a James Bond movie. Then, after the initial report, the media was quiet.

Gary Rowe, co-founder of the Welsh Federation of Independent Ufologists, read the article. He contacted the farmer, and his team investigators went to Llanilar. Once there, they searched the fields for any strange material. However, it appeared the RAF team had done a very thorough job and nothing was found.

One of the researchers noticed how the tops of some trees had been damaged in the nearby woods. Since the previous team had been searching in the darkness, they





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decided to focus on that area. They were successful in finding several pieces that were representative of the materials described to them by Mr. Evans.

Keeping in mind what happened in Roswell, New Mexico, about 35 years earlier, Rowe wanted to ensure the safety of the Welsh crash fragments should anything happen to him or members of his team. He was going to be careful about who he would share such information.

## Debris Analysis Sparks Further Mystery

Rowe and his team returned to base and began examining the debris. All the pieces were jagged around the edges, much like shattered glass. One of the honeycombed foil pieces was light as a feather. And, yet, it was so strong that it could not be crushed. A piece of thin alloy measured approximately two inches and was as thick as a piece of 100-gram paper. However, it could only be bent using great force.

Several of the pieces looked as if they were painted on one side with a dark green paint. The reverse side was coated with hard gray plastic-like material in which there was a honeycombed pattern.

Rowe noticed that the edges of all the pieces were slightly bent outwards toward the green side. Since it would require a great deal of force to cause this hard alloy to disintegrate into these shattered fragments, he concluded that the airborne object had struck the trees, at which point it exploded, leaving behind large amounts of debris. However, it had survived to continue its flight.

Samples were tested by an expert metallurgist. The results indicated that the metal contained properties similar to Duralumin, a lightweight material much like aluminum that is used in the manufacture of aircraft. They were unable to identify the green paint substance or the gray honeycombed surface. However, they were adamant that the green painted surface could not have been part of the outside skin of the aircraft, stating that the paint was not sufficiently aerodynamic.

The same samples were examined by the Air Force and aircraft construction industry. They concluded that the only areas of an aircraft's construction that would

normally require the use of honeycombed or sandwiched strengtheners would be the control surfaces, such as the tail rudder or wing flaps.

"There is no known aircraft that could lose that quantity of its control surfaces so as to cover several fields with metallic debris and survive," one expert noted.

Rowe planned to conduct a follow-up investigation, but Evans informed him of strange activity, including the Forestry Commission cutting down trees and taking soil away. He made inquiries to the Forestry Commission, because it seemed strange that an organization dedicated in preserving forests would cut down trees.

The Commission said the trees needed to be removed because of storm damage. He asked if it was normal procedure to remove even healthy trees. The man he spoke to said it was not normal but that was the explanation he was given and was instructed to do so.



The media seemingly went quiet after an initial reporting of the UFO incident.

## Men in Black Pay a Visit

Rowe was later visited by Men in Black, who strongly requested that he turn over all the materials his team had recovered. He did not. Instead, he told the men he had already sent all the fragments of material to several of his UFO contacts in the U.K. and was awaiting analysis.

The Men in Black left and never returned. However, for weeks afterward, he found that his mail had been intercepted and opened before he received it.

Coincidentally, just as in the Roswell incident, the parallels were eerily alike:

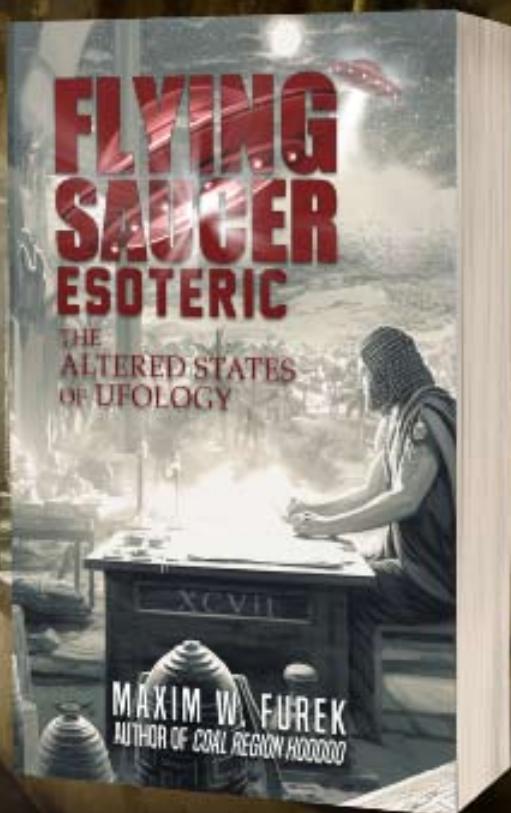
- Rancher discovers strange debris scattered over a large area of his land
- Debris consists of hundreds of pieces of foil and metallic material
- Material was light
- AF denied it was one of their planes
- The object avoided radar
- The pieces were not part of any conventional aircraft
- Some pieces were five feet in size
- Strange writing or numbers found on a debris part
- The event was reported by a newspaper, yet after the initial report, the media was quiet.

And, in both cases, it remains a crashed UFO! ♦

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# CHASING IMMORTALITY

## WHERE SCIENCE, METAPHYSICS & ETHICS COLLIDE

By Chad Wilson

**A**s humanity inches closer to breakthroughs in life-extension technologies, the concept of Longevity Escape Velocity (LEV) captures imaginations and stirs debate. Defined as the point where medical advancements extend life expectancy faster than the passage of time, LEV sparks questions that transcend biology and enter the realm of metaphysics.

Some experts, such as futurist Ray Kurzweil, have even suggested that LEV might be achieved as early as 2029 — a prediction that adds urgency to the ethical, philosophical, and practical questions surrounding this pursuit. What does it mean to live indefinitely? How might it alter our sense of self, purpose, and connection to the Universe?

### The Science of Longevity Escape Velocity

At its core, LEV is a scientific pursuit. Researchers are making strides in fields such as genetic editing, regenerative medicine, and cellular rejuvenation to slow, halt, or even reverse the aging process. Techniques such as senescence cell clearance, stem cell therapy, and AI-driven drug discovery form the foundation of this potential future. The vision is straightforward: Repair the biological damage caused by aging faster than it accumulates, effectively halting the clock.

Proponents of LEV argue that we could achieve LEV

within a few decades. Others, more cautiously, place the milestone further into the future. Regardless of timelines, the trajectory is clear — science is bringing humanity closer to a reality where aging is no longer an inevitable fate.

While LEV is rooted in hard science, its implications delve into metaphysical realms. Aging and death have long been integral to humanity's understanding of life. They provide context for meaning, urgency, and the natural order of existence. Removing death as a certainty compels us to rethink these foundations.

### What Is the Purpose of Life Without Death?

Philosophical and spiritual traditions often frame death as a transition or as essential to life's value. If death becomes optional, what will motivate people to find meaning in their lives? The absence of an endpoint could lead to existential drift, or perhaps it might inspire deeper exploration of purpose.

If LEV enables us to rejuvenate our bodies indefinitely, how might our sense of self evolve? Would we remain the same

person after centuries of experiences, or would identity dissolve over time? For those who believe consciousness transcends the physical body, LEV raises another question: Can extending the body's lifespan alter the essence of the soul?





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LEV also challenges spiritual and metaphysical worldviews. Many traditions see aging and death as part of a cosmic order, a cycle of birth, growth, decay, and renewal. Attempting to halt or reverse this cycle may be perceived as humanity stepping out of alignment with natural laws. On the other hand, some might argue that humanity's creativity and ingenuity are expressions of the divine, making the pursuit of LEV a fulfillment of spiritual potential.

## Immortality, Interconnectedness and Ethical Dilemmas

Throughout history, the quest for immortality has been a spiritual pursuit, often tied to the soul rather than the body. LEV shifts this focus to the material realm, granting what could be described as "earthly immortality." Does this render spiritual pursuits less significant, or does it offer humanity more time to engage in them?

Metaphysical thought often emphasizes the interconnected nature of life. Prolonging human lifespans could disrupt these connections in unexpected ways. Overpopulation, resource distribution, and ecological balance may be challenged by the widespread adoption of LEV technologies. Metaphysical principles of harmony and balance compel humanity to consider how these advancements align with the well-being of the planet and other species.

Ethically, the pursuit of LEV raises questions about access and equity. If only the wealthy benefit from these

technologies, would it deepen societal divides? Such concerns are not just practical, but metaphysical, touching on ideas of justice, fairness, and the collective good.

## A Convergence of Science and Metaphysics

The journey toward LEV may ultimately bridge science and metaphysics. Both disciplines seek to transcend limits — whether biological, existential, or cosmic. Science provides tools to extend life, but metaphysics offers the framework to explore the deeper questions of what that life means.

The interplay between these fields invites us to expand our understanding of humanity's potential. LEV is not merely about living longer; it is about reshaping how we view ourselves, our relationships, and our place in the Universe. This fusion of disciplines might even unlock new paradigms of thought, helping humanity navigate a future where the boundaries of life are redefined.

As science pushes the limits of what it means to age, humanity must grapple with the metaphysical implications of longevity escape velocity. While the pursuit of indefinite life is a testament to human ingenuity, it also demands reflection on existence, purpose, and balance.

LEV challenges us to not only extend life, but to deepen its meaning. In the quest to conquer aging, the ultimate question remains: Are we ready to embrace the profound shifts it will bring? ♦



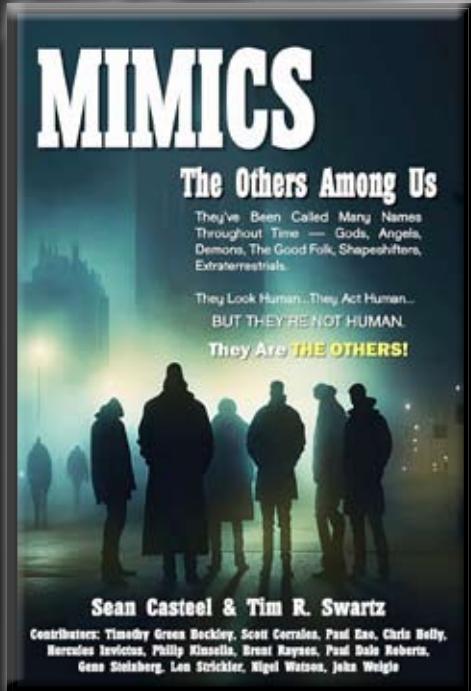
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# SMUDGING 101: HOW TO CLEAR YOUR SPACE WITH SACRED HERBS & RESINS

*By Dr. Athena Perrakis, Sage Goddess*

**C**learing your sacred space before ritual, ceremony, or meditation is very important for magical work, and perhaps the most time-tested method is to burn sacred herbs and resins. Since the earliest times in recorded history — and I’m sure even before that — our ancestors have burned herbs, resins, and other materials. This was partly an homage to our sense of smell (think of how differently, and how beautifully, rosemary smells when burned as opposed to pine or parsley) and partly a recognition that via our sense of smell, we could be transported — our energies shifted, our vibrations raised.

Our history also evidences a deep transcultural belief that passing items through smoke cleanses or purifies them (including our own bodies). The origin of modern-day perfume can be traced back to incense; in fact, the Latin root of the word perfume, *per fumem*, means “through smoke.” Our Egyptian and Roman ancestors “perfumed” the air with incense they burned. In pre-Christian times, Frankincense was the most valued type of incense — it was rare, expensive, and prized. No wonder it was one of the three gifts brought by the Wise Men to Christ’s manger; it was a gift fit for a king.

Today, we still burn frankincense, as well as myrrh and many other herbs and resins that are literally as old as time. Burning these herbs and resins connects us energetically with our ancient ancestors. Their spirits are drawn to the smell and to our ceremonies where those scents perfume the air.

To smudge, all you need to do is burn one or more of these ingredients on a heat-proof surface. You can direct the smoke around your space or body using your hand or a feather. In native traditions, we begin smudging by facing the direction of east, then turn south, west, north, and back to east to put the ashes out.

As you smudge, visualize any negative or low-vibration energies leaving your space or your body. Most of us feel instantly better after we smudge! And you can smudge any time of day or night, as often as you like.



Below are my top 10 smudging herbs, woods, and resins and their magical or healing properties.

1. White sage or salvia apiana: White sage is used to clear negative energies from a place, space, or person.
2. Coastal sage or artemisia californica: Coastal sage also clears negative energies and it heals holes or tears in the aura.
3. Lavender: Lavender brings peace and restful sleep.
4. Frankincense resin: Frankincense reduces stress, eases tension, and connects you with Source energy.
5. Myrrh resin: Myrrh resin is physically healing and grounding.
6. Pinon pine resin: Pinon pine is protective, healing, and nurturing.
7. Palo santo: Palo santo is deeply healing to the physical body. Can be used to clear a home of energies associated with illness.
8. Mugwort or artemisia vulgaris: Mugwort brings clarity and develops/deepens psychic abilities.
9. Thyme: Thyme is excellent for releasing ceremonies. It allows us to recall the past without pain.
10. Cedar: Cedar banishes fear and enhances courage in difficult times. ◆

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# A GHOSTLY THANKSGIVING FEAST

By Willie Windwalker Gibson

**I**t was November 1980. I was a peace officer assigned to the Fairgrounds Police Department. It was two days before Thanksgiving, and I had the midnight-to-eight shift.

I was driving around the complex in my cruiser, when I pulled over to watch the road coming into the fairgrounds. I was sitting there, watching the cars go by and listening to my police radio. The dispatcher was inside the office in the main building. I was the only car on the grounds. It was quiet.

Suddenly, the radio crackled to life. The dispatcher told me a warning light had come on inside the stadium, indicating an intruder. I had just passed by the stadium, and everything seemed quiet. I hadn't noticed anything suspicious. I told the dispatcher I'd check it out and drove over to the stadium, where I parked and got out of my cruiser to investigate.

As I walked around the outside of the stadium, I couldn't see anything out of the ordinary. It was quiet, but the atmosphere felt a little spooky. I decided to let myself inside and look around.

As I walked through the stadium, I started to smell something — turkey. I figured it had to be my imagination. Then I heard voices in the distance. Thinking I'd come across intruders, I called the dispatcher to let her know I was checking out the source of the noise.

I picked up the pace, heading toward the sound. The smell of food grew stronger as I got closer. Finally, I reached the area where the voices were coming from and saw a bluish glow in the distance. Within the glow, I could see people. It was like watching a scene on a TV screen. I stood there, trying to process what I was seeing.

It looked like an old-time setting — a table with people sitting around it, eating and laughing. It seemed like a family having dinner. As I walked closer, the smell of food became even more distinct. The people were dressed in old-fashioned clothes, maybe from the 1800s. I knew I



was witnessing something from the past. I just stood there and watched, amazed.

Then, all of a sudden, the light shut off, and the people disappeared. I walked over to the spot where I had seen them, but there was nothing there. I realized I had probably witnessed a residual scene from the past. I'd encountered this type of phenomenon before on other sites I patrolled.

Residual energy is like an imprint of the past, similar to replaying a record over and over. Having seen and heard spirits before, I had learned not to panic. This experience was incredible — a family enjoying a Thanksgiving dinner from another time. They looked happy.

If you ever see something like that, don't panic. You're safe. It's just a glimpse into the past. ◆

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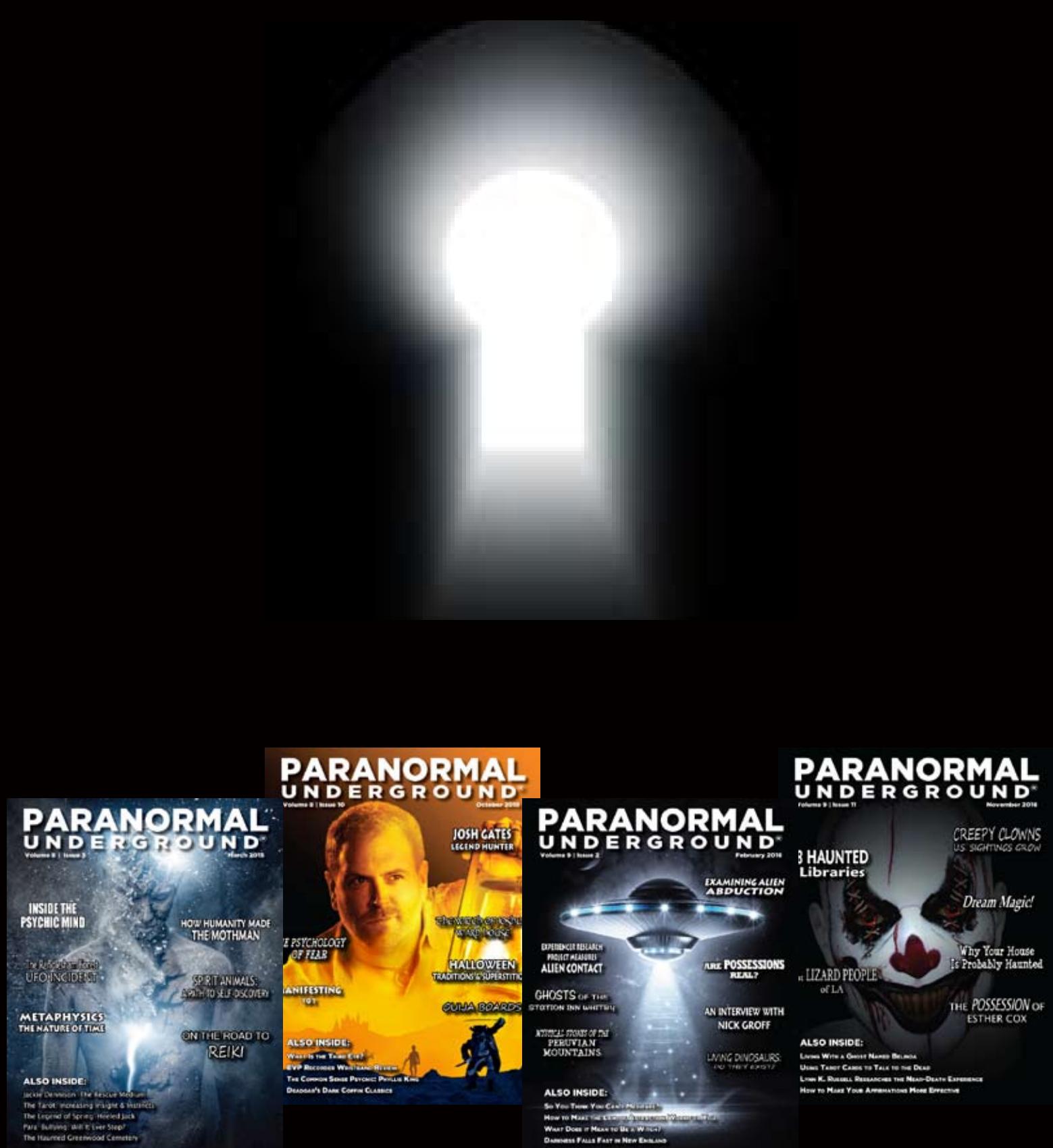


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